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WORK READY FOR CONGRESS

THE ATTEMPTED AMENDMENT OF THE LOTTERY LAWS.

THE COMMENTS CAUSED BY THE INACTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON POST OFFICES—GROUND OF THE LOTTERY COMPANIES' PROTEST—A NEW BILL TO ASSIST THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—At the last session of Congress several bills were introduced in the House to prevent the use of the mails by lottery companies, all of which were referred to the Committee on Post Offices. Some of the members of that committee appeared to be sincere in a purpose to close the mails against the lottery concerns that are now so conspicuous before the public through their advertisements in certain newspapers, and it was believed that the committee, acting upon the recommendation of the Postmaster-General, would report a bill which, if passed, would enable the Post Office Department to remedy the evil complained of. The committee, however, did nothing, and notwithstanding the fact that its Chairman presented a bill to prevent the use of the mails by lottery companies, as far as that can be done without invading individual rights, the bill was not even called up in the committee. This fact, taken in connection with the additional fact that certain officers and agents of the most prominent of the lottery companies were in Washington the greater part of last Winter, caused unfavorable criticism to be passed on the Committee on Post Offices.

In his recent annual report, Postmaster-General Maynard renews the recommendations made on this subject by his predecessor, and earnestly urges Congress to adopt measures that will prevent these concerns from using the mails to swindle the public. It is not likely, however, that the Committee on Post Offices will make any effort to push the necessary legislation, nor is it likely that, even under more favorable circumstances, such legislation could be secured at the present session. It may be remembered that Postmaster-General Key, about one year ago, refused the privilege of using the money-order system to lottery companies, and also returned to the senders all registered letters addressed to known lottery agents, stamped with the word "Fraudulent." In consequence of the case having been taken to the courts, the Postmaster-General suspended his orders so far as some of the lottery companies were concerned, but they are still enforced against certain other lottery companies that have not the pecuniary ability to employ influential agents and powerful attorneys at Washington. The issue made against the Post Office authorities by the lottery managers is based on the word "fraudulent," which is employed in the statutes in describing lotteries that shall be excluded from the use of the mails. Section 3,929, Revised Statutes, provides that the Postmaster-General, "upon evidence satisfactory to him that any person is engaged in conducting any fraudulent lottery, * * * for obtaining money through the mails by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, instruct Postmasters at any Post Offices at which registered letters arrive directed to any such person to return all such registered letters to the Postmasters at the offices at which they were originally mailed, with the word 'fraudulent' plainly written or stamped upon the outside of all such letters." Section 4,041 in like manner authorizes the Postmaster-General to forbid the payment of money orders to persons engaged in conducting any fraudulent lottery, and section 3,894 provides that no letter or circular concerning illegal lotteries shall be carried in the mail.

It is these qualifying words in the laws that furnish the lottery companies ground for resisting the action of the Postmaster-General. Bills to amend the laws by striking out the words "illegal" and "fraudulent" have been referred to the Committee on Post Offices. But, as already explained, that committee has given no indication of a purpose to do anything with them. An effort to secure the amendment of the law will be made through another channel, and with this purpose in view Mr. New, of Indiana, has introduced in the House and had referred to the Committee on the Judiciary a bill to strike the word "fraudulent" from section 3,929 of the Revised Statutes. Mr. New should not stop at that one section, but make his bill include the same word in section 4,041, and the word "illegal" in section 3,894.

MR. CHRISTIANCY'S SUIT.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Representative Willits, of Michigan, counsel for ex-Senator Christiancy in his suit for divorce, left here to-night for New-York, to be present at the examination by a Commissioner of Mr. Giro, who is charged in Mr. Christiancy's bill as the person with whom Mrs. Christiancy held criminal intercourse. At a recent hearing of this case in Washington, a hotel clerk who was relied upon to swear that Mrs. Christiancy was the lady who occupied a room with Giro at a hotel in this city, testified that Mrs. Christiancy was not the woman whom he saw pass to Giro's room, and this testimony is regarded as having weakened the case of Mr. Christiancy. It is now said, however, that Mr. Christiancy's attorneys have secured letters written by Mrs. Christiancy to Giro, in which she refers to improper relations with that gentleman and appeals to him to protect her in any testimony he might be called upon to give.

THE FERMENTED LIQUORS MADE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Since 1870 the quantity of fermented liquors manufactured and consumed in the United States has been more than doubled. In 1870 the quantity of fermented liquors returned for taxation to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue was 6,574,000 barrels of 31 gallons each, while there was returned during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, 13,347,000 barrels. Reduced to gallons, these figures show that during the last fiscal year there was manufactured and consumed in the United States nearly 414,000,000 gallons of fermented liquors. Assuming that the population is 50,000,000, this would show a consumption of fermented domestic liquors last year equal to about 8¼ gallons per capita, or more than one-fourth of a barrel for every man, woman, and child in the country.

THE WARFARE OF THE BOERS.

DURBAN, Dec. 26.—The Boers fired on the detachment on the Pretoria and Lydenburg road under cover of a flag of truce. At Potchefstroom the greatest excitement prevails. Four persons have been murdered.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—A correspondent at Durban reports that the wagons which the detachment of the Ninety-fourth Regiment was in charge of got into a swamp, and all hands laid aside their arms to extricate them. The Boers suddenly appeared and demanded their surrender. The soldiers rushed for their arms, but before they were able to defend themselves they were shot down.

While a Boer was attempting to hoist a republican flag at Potchefstroom he was shot by a British officer, whom the Boers immediately shot dead.

The four persons reported to have been murdered at Potchefstroom were a commandant of the Cape Mounted Police and three civilians. They were brutally murdered in the midst of an assembly of 3,000 Boers. The driver of a post cart was murdered and the mail-bag carried off. Another report says the Boers were shelled at Potchefstroom, and a hundred killed and many wounded.

Arrangements are being made at Woolwich for sending supplies to the Cape.

The Sixth Dragoons will be sent to Natal from England, in response to the call of the commandant at Durban.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—A Durban dispatch reports that the Boers have given notice that they will seize a certain town on a specified day. The Boers were shelled out of Potchefstroom. They lost a hundred killed and many wounded.

The authorities at Cape Town have communicated further with the home authorities in regard to reinforcements, and it is probable that two regiments of cavalry, two of infantry, and two batteries of artillery will be sent to the Transvaal.

SENATOR HAMLIN'S SUCCESSOR.

THE CONTEST OF MESSRS. FRYE AND HALE FOR THE PLACE—CHAMBERLAIN AS A COMPROMISE CANDIDATE.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 26.—The canvass for United States Senator, to succeed Senator Hamlin, in Maine, is pushed with great vigor, as the time for action approaches, by the partisans of the two leading candidates, Messrs. Frye and Hale. It is announced that Mr. Frye will be a candidate until the caucus makes a nomination, but some of his warmest friends admit that the greater strength appears to be with Mr. Hale. It is believed that a large majority of the members-elect are pledged for one or the other candidate, and the struggle will be for the votes of those whose preferences are not known. The report that Mr. Hamlin may finally conclude to run again, withdrawing his declaration not to be a candidate, is indignantly denied by friends of both the present candidates and also by Mr. Hamlin's friends. Workers for Mr. Hale say that they are reasonably sure of a majority for him on the first ballot, but they will strive until the last moment to hold those who are believed to be for Hale as a first choice, and to influence others to his support. A very thorough canvass of the members-elect has been made, and on the result the friends of Mr. Hale base their confidence. It does not appear that Senator Blaine is throwing his influence directly for either candidate. He cannot well do so, for he is under obligations to both, and both have been his staunch political friends.

The talk of President Chamberlain, of Bowdoin, as a compromise candidate, is agreeable to those Republicans in the State who are known as Liberals, and to others who would like to see new leaders to the front in Maine, but it is not believed that they have strength sufficient to make a formidable candidate. In any event, the question of locality, a strong one in Maine, is also against him, he being of the upper section of the State, where Blaine resides. This question of locality also works against Frye, and men who admit his ability and talents, who would otherwise be expected to favor him rather than Hale for the Senatorship, are for the latter because he resides further down East, in Hamlin's district. It is asserted, but how correctly cannot as yet be said, that Hamlin's influence is indirectly for Hale. Notwithstanding the evident leading Mr. Hale at the present time has, a sharp struggle is anticipated.

GOV. FOSTER'S WITHDRAWAL.

A SENSATIONAL REPORT STRONGLY DENOUNCED—THE NEXT GUBERNATORIAL CONTEST IN OHIO.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 26.—Since his withdrawal as a candidate for the Senate Gov. Foster has been the recipient of hundreds of letters commending his action in the interest of harmony in the party. Some of these letters are from the recognized leaders of the Nation, and one from the standard-bearer as expressed by the will of the people. While Republicans generally are gratified that a heated and bitter contest has been avoided, there are many within the party who are not at all pleased with the Governor's withdrawal, and it is a question whether the withdrawal would have been advised by his friends had they better understood the exact situation of affairs, as is made apparent in the correspondence of the first few days. It is only justice to say that Mr. Sherman's strength in the Legislature was greatly over-estimated, and his election was only made certain by the withdrawal of Gov. Foster. A report of a sensational character, to the effect that, had Gov. Foster remained in the field and had failed to secure the caucus nomination, his friends would have withdrawn and formed a combination with a few Democrats, created quite a ripple on the political surface until the attention of the Governor was called to the rumor, which he denounced as the most absurd story ever set afloat. "You may say," he said, "that so far as I am concerned I never entertained such a thought, and had the suggestion ever been broached I should have smothered it at once. Such a thought could have never been entertained. I based my hopes on the votes of the Republican members of the General Assembly, and had I been disappointed that would have ended the matter. As a Republican, I should have abided by the result of the caucus of Republicans. The intimation that a job was set up to form a combination is utterly false and without foundation. The gentlemen who form the General Assembly are not of that stripe. They are Republicans and Democrats of character, and I do not know of a member on either side that would be willing, or could be induced, to cast his ballot contrary to the decision of the caucus of their respective parties."

Public opinion strongly favors the Governor's renomination next Summer for a second term, and it is not at all improbable that he will consent. While such action would have a strong tendency to keep the party in solid column and bring to its support the new voters, there are evident signs of opposition in certain directions, which, it is anticipated, would render the nominating convention an attractive place for those who enjoy lively times of a political nature. It is intimated that Gen. John Beatty, the leading spirit in the anti-Hayes movement in 1877, and who led the Blaine forces in Ohio last Spring, thereby defeating Secretary Sherman's Presidential hopes for all time, will be brought out as a candidate for the Gubernatorial nomination next Spring.

THE DISORDER IN IRELAND.

DUBLIN, Dec. 26.—The circular of the magistrates in reply to Mr. Forster's circular states that the magistrates are unable to carry out the law, owing to terrorism.

A farmer's house at Portadown has been maliciously burned.

The Monaghan Anti-League Association has issued a manifesto calling on loyal men to combine for mutual defense and to combat the baleful teachings of the Land League.

The Land League meeting which was to be held in Borris-in-Ossory on Sunday was prohibited. Military and Police were present to enforce the prohibition.

There was a riot on Saturday in Dublin between soldiers and civilians. The Police separated the combatants.

The *Gazette* publishes a proclamation prohibiting a meeting at Athgreany, County Wicklow, on Sunday, which was called for the purpose of denouncing a certain person. The *Gazette* declares the County Limerick to be in a disturbed state, requiring additional police.

THE GREEK BOUNDARY.

ATHENS, Dec. 26.—In an interview between Deputy Casimatis and Premier Commoundouros the latter declared that the reports that Greece was willing to accept arbitration is entirely false, and that the Government does not intend to recede an inch from the position Greece gained at the Berlin conference.

Premier Commoundouros has told M. de Mouy, the French Minister, that he intends to refuse the proposal for arbitration.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 26.—M. Tissot, the French Ambassador, has informed the Porte that the powers have accepted the arbitration proposal. The Council of Ministers have dispersed a circular to be sent to the powers, to prevent them from requesting the Porte to accept arbitration. Should the Porte absolutely refuse arbitration, it is understood that England will propose a new European conference, which Turkish and Greek delegates will be invited to attend.

WINTER MUCH IN EARNEST

A HEAVY SNOW-STORM ALL ALONG THE COAST.

STRONG WINDS, INCREASING TO A GALE AT SOME POINTS, ACCOMPANIED BY A HEAVY SNOW-FALL—RAILROAD TRAVEL OBSTRUCTED BY DRIFTS.

The most threatening storm of the Winter set in last night, and at midnight the snow was piled in drifts by the strong wind which accompanied it. Its coming was foreshadowed by the report of the Signal Service Bureau, which indicated for the Middle States rain and snow, north-east to north-west winds, and a falling barometer. These conditions were all fulfilled during the day and evening. A few minutes before 11 o'clock in the morning the snow-flakes began to fly through the air, borne on a wind that was blowing at the rate of 36 miles an hour. There was a mild temperature prevailing, and the feathery particles melted as they fell. But for this the City would have been covered with a mantle half an inch in thickness. The wind was from the north-east and swept briskly across Central Park. The bells on the roof of the arsenal chased each other around their spindles with lightning-like speed, the red ball bobbed furiously at the flagstaff, and the vane shivered as it steadied itself in the teeth of the blast. Up through the building to the little room where Prof. Draper takes meteorological observations for the Park Commissioners a TIMES reporter groped his way, one of the very few persons permitted by the grim janitor to disturb the Sunday reveries of the walrus, the ichthyosaurus, and the plesiosaurus. A crowd of skaters was carousing on the lake, and laughter and shouts were borne upward on the breeze, mingled with the tinkling of bells as the cutters swept up the avenue. On the sidewalks humanity was struggling against the gale or scudding before it under close-reefed topsails, and not a few representatives under bare poles. The highest rate of speed indicated by the needle during the day was about 40 miles.

For four hours the snowfall continued, and then it died away. The wind fell somewhat, there was a drift occurred in the dark clouds, and there was every indication that colder and clearer weather was at hand. The appearances were deceptive, however, for about 7 o'clock in the evening the snow began to fall in earnest. The wind was not blowing so hard by a dozen miles as it had been during the day. Few persons will believe it, though the instrument on the Equitable Insurance Building declared this was a fact. It made more noise and hurried around the cornices of the lofty down-town buildings with a dismal sound that chilled one to the marrow. The explanation of this increased noise, coupled with the decreased speed, was made by the Sergeant on duty in the Signal Service Bureau. "The main streets of avenues in New-York run north-east and south-west," said he. "A north-east wind slips through them and across Manhattan Island as though 'twas greased. This evening it has veered from north-east to north-west, and as it cuts across town and strikes the corners of big buildings it howls like so many demons, although now [7:30 o'clock] it is only running at 23 miles an hour." He might have added that it cut like so many knives, for the mercury in the thermometer was slowly dropping from 34°, the highest point during the day, toward zero.

The storm, which struck New-York in all its violence, has been moving north for several days. When Christmas dinners were being served in this City its centre was at Montgomery, Ala., and the day it was marred by heavy wind and rain. Sweeping across Florida, it started on its journey up the Atlantic. Storm signals were ordered up along the coast, and the red flag was floated on the Equitable Building, where it remained until 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. At 12 o'clock dispatches were received from Washington stating that the off-shore signals (two flags) had been ordered up from Hatteras to Wilmington, and that the storm centre was then at Cape Henry. Dangerous winds, they added, would continue during the day on the Middle and South Atlantic coast, and the storm, when it reached the New-England coast, would be very severe. On the heels of this intelligence came the news that at Sandy Hook the wind was blowing 68 miles an hour—almost a hurricane. The weather was so thick that outward-bound vessels anchored in the Bay and the incoming dared not venture across the bar. Five hours later and the off-shore signals were ordered for this port. The red flag was hauled down and as darkness was coming on two bright red lights were swung aloft. These indicated that the wind had veered around so far to the north-west that it was now a good sailing wind for ships bound across the sea. Under ordinary conditions—with the stars in sight and no snow-storm brewing—the signals would have been hailed with delight by sailors, and no time would be lost in putting to sea. As it was the red lights boded fairer weather for the morrow.

The storm during the day had no more serious effect on public travel than to make the rails of the elevated road very slippery, causing the trains to slide past the stations in many instances before the air-brakes could bring them to a stop. The street cars ran on their usual time until the storm set in during the evening. Then the number of cars was reduced, the horses were "doubled up"—four horses to a car—and the snow-plows were set in motion. It was an exceedingly difficult task to keep the tracks clear, for the snow was damp and wherever it drifted it soon became solidly packed. In one of these drifts in Printing-house-square the steam snow plow of the Third-avenue line stuck fast for three-quarters of an hour before it was rescued and resumed its work. The mails arrived on time at the Post Office during the morning and afternoon, showing that the area of the snow-storm was so circumscribed that the trains had up to that time experienced little or no difficulty in making their schedule time. At 10 o'clock in the evening, however, word was received that the trains on the Hudson River Road were delayed by the snow, that they were from one to three hours late on the Pennsylvania Central, and more than four hours on the Erie, with every prospect of some of them being snowed in for the night on all three lines.

At the Grand Central Depot it was stated that there had been little detention with the Eastern and Western trains, in a measure accounted for by the few incoming and outgoing trains on Sunday. The Western train on the New-York Central was detained a few hours by the snow, but it was expected it would arrive in good season. No trouble seemed to be anticipated by the officers, unless the storm should further increase.

The storm has been very severe the entire length of Long Island, and having good ground to fall on the snow has gathered very fast. Large drifts are reported at various points along the road, the strong wind of this evening having drifted the snow at all exposed places. The earlier trains came in on time, but the engines had much difficulty in breaking through drifts at many points. Large drifts are reported near College Point and at Newtown Cut. A fence at the latter place, protecting the road, blew down early in the evening, and as the last train came in it was reported that the cut was rapidly filling up. Two trains, about 10 o'clock, were reported stuck—the incoming train from Patchogue and the outgoing train to Northport—about 20 miles from here, near Garden City. Both trains were fast near the same place, and some difficulty was anticipated in getting them out. An engine was immediately prepared to take a snow-plow out, and it was hoped to relieve both trains before midnight. There seemed to be a great deal of delay in getting a suitable engine ready. Snow-plows will be kept on the road all night. There is no communication with the eastern end of the island.

The north-east gale was very severe, both in the Lower and Upper Bays and about Staten Island. With the exception of a few tugs, no craft ventured through the Narrows during the day. Several vessels outward bound, including a number of large English steam-ships, were compelled to anchor off the east shore of Staten Island. The pilot boat Charles H. Marshall dragged her anchors and came near running into the hospital ship Illinois, in Winter quarters at Stapleton. The pilot boat was secured by a tug and towed to a place of safety. Owing to the rough sea, the boats of the Staten Island Railway Ferry experienced great difficulty in making their landings at the island. In many places about the villages sign-boards and fences were blown down.

At midnight the storm was over, and a stiff breeze was blowing full from the north-west. The fall of snow during the evening in the City was 4.44 inches. The record of the thermometer for the day and for the corresponding day of 1879, as kept at Hudnut's pharmacy, was as follows:

	1879.	1880.		1879.	1880.
9 A. M.	19°	31°	3:30 P. M.	20°	32°
6 A. M.	16°	31°	6 P. M.	21°	30°
9 A. M.	19°	29°	9 P. M.	19°	29°
12 M.	21°	34°	12 P. M.	19°	29°

Average temperature yesterday.....31½°
Average temperature for same date last year.....17°

The employes of the Street-cleaning Bureau were last night given notice by Inspector Williams to be ready to receive orders early to-day to go to work to remove the snow blockade from Broadway and the principle thoroughfares of the City if the storm which prevailed when the order was issued ceased.

WIND AND SNOW ELSEWHERE.

REPORTS OF A GALE AND HEAVY SNOW-STORM FROM VIRGINIA NORTH—VESSELS ENDANGERED AND TRAVEL IMPEDED.

LONG BRANCH, Dec. 26.—The wind from the north-east, which blew very moderately all day yesterday, increased after nightfall, so that at midnight it was blowing a gale, which lasted until daylight. Then the wind went down and it commenced raining, which continued up to 10 A. M., when the wind increased, accompanied by snow. It has blown hard ever since, accompanied with snow, rain, and sleet. The ocean has been furious all day, the waves increasing in size from early morning until high tide, at 3 o'clock this afternoon, when they were 15 feet high, many of them throwing the spray over the end of the pier. At this time the sea was terrible, the huge waves rolling up to the end of the pier, each of which seemed as if it must sweep the pier away. Nobly did it stand the shock. The iron piling and brace under the structure stood firm, cutting the waves down so that they came dashing to the shore one mass of foam, which filled the beach and many times flying clear over the high banks and into the pavilions attached to the pier. As yet no damage has been caused to the pier, and none is expected, unless some of the wooden piles at the boat landings should be washed out and driven against the iron ones, as was the case the other day. Up to night-fall they are standing firm, and those in charge of the pier do not expect they will move out of their places, as all the dangerous ones have been removed since the storm of Dec. 31.

This morning a brig and a pilot boat were seen a mile from the shore. The brig seemed anchored, and it was feared that she might be driven ashore, but this afternoon nothing could be seen of either of them. No vessels of any description were in sight during the afternoon. From all points on the shore reached from here this evening—Sandy Hook, Seabright, and Highlands—there are no reports of disasters of any kind, either on land or sea. At the Highlands the sea is reported very high, but as yet it has not reached the railroad track on the beach. The sand on the beach is blown so fiercely by the wind that it is almost impossible to be out in it. The life-saving station men have a hard time walking their beats. From points south, the stations on the railroad—Lakewood, Manchester, Tom's River, and at Atco Junction, on the Camden and Atlantic Railroad—reports come to-night of a fierce snow-storm, blown by the gale in immense drifts, rendering traveling by the country roads very difficult, if not almost impossible. At 8:30 o'clock to-night the wind changed to the north-west, and it was snowing very hard. Should the wind continue at that point it will knock the sea down, and no fears for the safety of the pier here or railroad on the beach are now entertained.

BORDENTOWN, N. J., Dec. 26.—A heavy wind and snow storm set in here at 5 o'clock this morning, causing large drifts on the line of the railroad. The snow is now about nine inches deep.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 26.—The heaviest snow-storm of the Winter occurred in this city to-day. After a rain-storm which lasted until 3 A. M., snow began to fall and continued falling until 11 o'clock in the forenoon. Snow fell to the depth of a foot, being the heaviest fall in three years.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The snow-storm that began here on Monday last and which has continued at intervals since was as furious to-day as upon any of the preceding days, and there is now about 13 inches of snow on the ground. Yesterday afternoon a drizzling rain set in, making walking on the icy pavements dangerous and locomotion in the streets heavy and difficult, owing to the depth of the snow. During the night there were heavy showers, and toward morning these were followed by a violent snow-storm, which continued all day. In consequence of the violence of the storm and the dangerous condition of the sidewalks very few persons ventured out of doors, and the churches therefore were slimly attended. Since the Winter of 1877 there has not been so much snow in Washington as now, and while there is a cessation of the storm to-night, there are indications that it is not yet over. All the arriving trains were detained by snow on the railroad tracks.

LEWES, Del., Dec. 26.—A strong easterly gale set in here early yesterday evening and still continues. The wind changed at 4 o'clock this morning to north-west and increased in violence. The bark W. T. Harward, here for orders, is high up on the beach above the railroad pier, and a little side-wheel steamer, the Wanderer, from New-York, bound South, has gone to pieces near the iron pier. The crews of both are safe. The men on the bark landed in their own boats. Few vessels are in the harbor, and no further disasters have been heard of. This is the severest gale experienced here since the one in October, 1877, at which time so many vessels foundered in the harbor. The gale was accompanied by a heavy rain until 3 o'clock this afternoon, when it changed to a blinding snow-storm, which still continues. The wind is north-east.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., Dec. 26.—A severe north-easterly storm of hail, rain, and snow has raged here since early last evening. The Southern fast-mail train passed two hours late, and other trains were much detained. The Baltimore steamer approached within eight miles, but was compelled to return on account of the ice. The country roads are badly blockaded by snow and ice, and communication is very difficult in all directions. The early Winter has not been characterized by such severe weather for many years.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 26.—The weather has been very mild in and around Rochester during the last 24 hours, but snow fell to a depth of six inches between 10 o'clock last night and 7 o'clock this morning. There has been no snow-fall since morning, and the weather continues mild to-night. Railroad trains have been delayed very little on account of snow.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Dec. 26.—A great storm of snow, accompanied by a north-east gale, prevails to-night in this region. The steamer Old Colony, of the Fall River Line to New-York, is detained here, with 300 passengers aboard.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 26.—A heavy easterly gale, with light snow, prevailed all day along the coast and continues unabated. At Thatcher's Island the velocity of the wind is 84 miles an hour. As yet yet no reports of wrecks or damage to shipping have been received.

THE POET BJORNSON HONORED.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—A reception was given this afternoon to the Norwegian poet Bjornson at McVicker's Theatre, the house being about three-quarters filled with his countrymen, to whom he made an address in their native language. He said the monarchy in Norway was too despotic, and that over half of the people were in favor of a republic. He prophesied that it would not be very long before a change was made by the dethronement of the monarch and the establishment of a republic. He expressed himself as highly pleased with what he had seen of the Government and people of the United States, and especially of the system of education which he found here. To-night the poet attended a banquet given in his honor at the Palmer House.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 26.—William Wagner, who was stabbed last night while separating two men engaged in a fight, died to-night. Ferdinand Tromm, an engineer on the Hocking Valley Railroad, has been arrested charged with the crime.

SCHOOLS IN BALTIMORE

COLORED MEN DENIED THE RIGHT TO TEACH THEIR OWN RACE.

FORMAL REFUSAL BY THE SCHOOL BOARD—AN APPEAL ISSUED BY THE COLORED MEN—SPEECH BY FRED DOUGLASS—FURTHER EFFORTS TO BE MADE.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 26.—The Bourbon spirit in the Government of this city, which would hold in check any attempt of the colored people in the direction of progress, was clearly manifested here last week by the refusal of the School Board, by a vote of 12 to 6, to try the experiment of placing public schools for colored pupils in the charge of colored teachers. The action of the board was based simply on the color line question, as is clearly shown by the facts in the case. Over a year ago a number of the leading citizens of Baltimore, including all the colored clergymen, began to agitate the question, basing their claim on the ground of simple justice to the colored tax-payers, and also on the fact that colored pupils under charge of white teachers did not make the progress they should, as there was no sympathy between teacher and pupil. Instances were given in which colored children were taunted by their teachers, and forbidden to speak to them, or in any way to recognize them on the street. It was fairly claimed by the colored people that if competent colored teachers were employed for the instruction of colored pupils, all the evils of the present method would be cured.

The movements of the colored citizens at once met with favor from a large number of thinking men in the community who saw that the present system worked an injustice to the colored race. The Baltimore *American* gave it a hearty support. A number of public meetings were held to push forward the movement, at which addresses were made by Frederick Douglass, and other leading colored men. The movement finally took shape in an appeal to the School Board to permit colored persons to enter themselves as candidates at the regular semi-annual examination for teachers. This appeal was held under consideration for some time and finally the colored people, becoming naturally excited at the delay, decided to take the matter into their own hands and test it by sending a candidate to the examination to see if he would be refused permission to compete with the others. A young colored man, well educated and of good address, was selected, and when he appeared at the examination, although there was some excitement over the matter, yet no outspoken objection was made, and he was permitted to enter with the rest. He not only passed the examination, but passed it far more creditably than a large number, if not a majority, of the white candidates. This was thought by the colored people to have been a point gained for them, but they soon found out their mistake, for the School Board has persistently refused to elect either this teacher or any other colored man who has passed the examination to any of the vacant positions which have occurred among teachers in public schools. The colored people, finding they could gain nothing in this way humbly prayed the School Board to grant the experiment of opening two colored schools with colored teachers in charge. They promised that if the experiment proved a failure they would drop further agitation of the subject, but they were confident it would be a success as has been the case in Washington and other cities. This question the School Board debated upon night after night, and finally decided to open two such schools in January, 1881, and appointed a committee to secure buildings and make other necessary arrangements for the opening.

This committee, instead of doing as it was told, brought in a report to the board last Tuesday night adverse to the opening of any such schools on the flimsy ground that there was no money in the treasury for the board to pay them. The President of the board, Mr. John T. Morris, clearly proved to the board that the lack of funds claimed by the committee was entirely without foundation, and could be no excuse for their action, as with the opening of the new year the board would receive its annual appropriation and would have at its disposal abundant funds for the support of two such schools. He also reminded the board that it had pledged its honor to the colored people of the city that these schools would be opened, but, under the plea of no funds, the committee had tried to hide their Bourbon opposition to the progress of the colored race, and as a grand finale to this dishonest course the report was adopted by a vote of 12 to 6. The pledge of the board to the colored people was thus broken without even the shadow of an excuse, and very naturally excited great indignation among the colored tax-payers, as well as among a large number of white people who have taken an interest in the subject. The colored people are determined to keep on pressing the question, and already on Friday evening had a meeting at which an address was made by Mr. Douglass, and a circular was issued to the majority of the School Board, who, by voting for the report of the committee, killed the proposed plan for the time being. This address says:

"No language is too strong for condemnation of the very unmanly course pursued by the Board of Public School Commissioners in their treatment of questions of colored teachers in the colored schools. The standing committee on the subject of colored teachers in the Baltimore city colored public schools have been watching with much interest all the attempts movements of that most wonderful institution, the Board of School Commissioners. We approached them with the full consciousness that they were a board of gentlemen, and who dare say that they are not? Even though they have misrepresented us and our people, and have said one thing and finally done another, is not every one a gentleman, even though one should call educated colored ladies and gentlemen 'nigger teachers?' Of course he must be or he cannot as he should see to the training of the rising generation for the purpose of making ladies and gentlemen of coming days. The honorable press of our City said the request was just. The people of our race felt that it was just. We know that it is just, and we are as earnest to-day in making that appeal as we were when we first made it. We have asked for colored teachers in our colored schools, and we intend to agitate the question until we have them, there, though we may have to step from the ordinary method of petition and enlist on our side all the power of the altar. We will work and pray and pray and work until, by God's assistance, we shall be delivered from this most shameful injustice. Henceforth it is to be understood that the bar at which we shall plead shall be that of public opinion. The executive power upon which we will depend shall be that almighty power that breaks up all forms of injustice and oppression."

In the course of his remarks Mr. Douglass said:

"We should not ask too much to persecute others, or seem forward, but I think we have not asked too much when we asked for our children that have been taught and qualified to teach, younger colored children that they should be appointed to the position of teachers. It is 15 years since the war, since freedom came to us, and it is not too soon to ask for a share of the educational fund or the positions of dignity and influence it gives. I am not for putting any one in office or on school boards because they are colored, but we are making war against those who say we cannot have our rights. When you drop the seed of injustice there will inevitably spring up contention, strife, and blood. England cannot have peace while her heel is on the heart of Ireland; nor Russia while she places spies at every hearthstone and sends her children into exile; nor Turkey while it will not tolerate Christians; nor the South while it stamps upon the Constitution, and denies the colored people the rights granted by that Constitution. The School Board cannot have peace until they give us colored teachers."

Eventually there can be but little doubt the colored people will carry their point, but they will have a hard and long fight over it, as all the members of the School Board are Democrats, appointed, one from each ward, by the Democratic Council, and, as has been clearly shown in this matter, a majority of the present board proposes to stand by the Bourbon doctrines in which they have been educated to the bitter end.

ALEKO PASHA'S RESIGNATION.

PHILIPPOPOLIS, Dec. 26.—Aleko Pasha has tendered his resignation of the Governorship of Roumelia in consequence of resolutions passed by the Assembly which he interprets as a vote of want of confidence in his Administration. Aleko Pasha demands permission to go to Constantinople to explain matters fully.

A number of officers and Deputies requested Aleko Pasha to reconsider his decision. He then telegraphed the Porte withdrawing his resignation.

THE MINERS COMPLAINING.

A CAUSELESS DISTURBANCE IN THE HOCKING VALLEY REGION.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 26.—Serious trouble is threatened in the Hocking Valley coal mining districts at New-Straitsville, Nelsonville, and Shawnee, the cause being the imaginary injustice of the operators and mine-owners. At Corning and Readville, in the Monday Creek Valley, the miners have been out for two or three days, their demand for settlements semi-monthly instead of monthly, not having been acceded to by the operators, but it was expected that work would be resumed to-morrow. The strike of the Hocking Valley miners, however, does not encourage such expectations. The lawless element in both places, together with a free indulgence in whisky, has had the effect of rendering argument useless at the present time. Extravagant demands are made as a condition of a return to work. As a precautionary measure the Hocking Valley Railroad Company has removed its locomotives and cabooses from all points where trouble is threatened. It is the opinion of the railroad people and the coal operators that as soon as the miners become sober work will be resumed. The suspension of work, even temporarily, will seriously embarrass business, as over 1,000 cars of coal per day were being marketed from these mines.

SCRANTON, Penn., Dec. 26.—The miners of the Wyoming and Lackawanna coal-fields, growing restive under the double depression of low wages and half time, are earnestly discussing the formation of an organization for their benefit and protection. The recent decision of the coal combination to work the mines on half time at a period of the year when coal is most in demand, the opening of new collieries, and the constant increase of the great army of laborers in this region have aroused the thinking men among the mining masses to a sense of what they consider their danger, and secret meetings have been held at various points to-day for the purpose of defining some plan of action by which these accumulating ills may be counteracted. Working on half-time, the average wages of a miner will not exceed $6 or $7 a week, after deducting all expenses, and the laborer is paid much less. This state of affairs they attribute principally to the over-crowded condition of the labor market in the coal regions. New collieries are being developed daily at an enormous expense, only to be worked on half time as soon as completed, and their construction is constantly inviting more labor where thousands of men are half idle already. The masses regard this as a well defined plan of the corporations to keep the labor market glutted and regulate wages according to their own wishes.

A fervent appeal was issued to-day describing in pathetic terms the condition of the miners. It states that they are now working for 30 per cent. less than they should have, and are forced to work on half-time, while the great cities of the West are suffering for want of coal. This circular asks if the men have become Chinese, and whether they are afraid to assert their rights. It adds that the companies are grinding them into the dust, and that the coal diggers are the poorest paid of any class of toilers in the United States. The circular adds that it is time to awake from the lethargy to assert their manhood, and try to make a living, and closes with an appeal calling for all miners to organize at once, demand more work and more wages, and prevent the starvation which stares them in the face. Judging by the wide-spread discontent which has grown up among the mining people, there can be no doubt that an organization will soon be effected that will embrace not only the miners of Wyoming and Lackawanna, but also those of the Schuylkill region. It is not likely that a strike would be one of the first fruits of such an organization, as the men feel there is much preliminary work to be done before taking such a step. They propose first to apprise the working men of the United States of their condition, with a view to discouraging further immigration to the coal fields; then to reduce the surplus workmen now on hand by inducing as many as possible to go elsewhere in search of employment, and, having balanced the proportion of labor in accordance with the demand, they will ask for what they deem suitable remuneration for their work. The close of the year finds a vast number in debt and distress, and they contemplate the prospect with dismay. In this depressing condition they look for relief; their only hope is in unity and action. It is ascertained that the men in the Schuylkill region are also ripe and ready for organization, and it is altogether likely that the beginning of the new year will witness a revival of the agitation of former years among the miners of Pennsylvania.

TOPICS OF INTEREST ABROAD.

NICOSIA, Dec. 26.—Sixty houses have been destroyed by floods at Limasol. Eight persons were killed, and damage to the amount of £70,000 was done.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 26.—The report of the discovery of a tunnel near the railway at Livadia is officially declared to be unfounded.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—M. Gayot, Republican, has been elected Senator for the Department of Aube, and M. Ordinaire, Republican, has been returned to the Chamber of Deputies from Pontarlier.

A return match between Slosson and Vignaux for 20,000f. is talked of, to be played in New-York, but Vignaux does not want to cross the Atlantic.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—A dispatch from Geneva says the United States Government has informed the Federal Council of the arrest of Joseph Niedrist in Indiana, who is suspected of being concerned in three murders committed in Switzerland.

John J. Mechi, the agriculturist and razor-strop-maker, whose failure was announced on the 16th inst., is dead.

SERIOUS FIRE IN HORNELLSVILLE.

HORNELLSVILLE, N. Y., Dec. 26.—This town was visited last night by a serious fire, and a heavy loss was sustained. It was first discovered about midnight, in the dry goods store of J. W. Burnham, in Main-street, in what is known as the Metropolitan block. It spread to the adjoining store, occupied by V. W. Buchman, druggist, and damaged it to the extent of $1,500. Mr. Burnham's stock, valued at $15,000, was entirely ruined by fire and water, and he has only $9,000 insurance. The building was owned by Harry Johnson. Mr. Buenman's stock suffered serious damage; he has $4,000 insurance. The building occupied by him was owned by William Kimball. The total insurance on both places was $8,000. Metropolitan Hall, situated over the stores, was rendered unfit for further use. A fireman, whose name was not ascertained, was badly injured.

KILLED BY A FALL OF COAL.

CARBONDALE, Penn., Dec. 26.—Patrick Geary, a miner, working in the Brennan and Bridget Mine, near this city, was injured by a fall of top coal in his chamber on Friday. He died from his injuries on Saturday, and was buried by the Knights of Father Mathew to-day.

A WEALTHY CATTLE-DEALER'S DEATH.

DENVER, Col., Dec. 26.—John Hittson, one of the wealthiest and best-known cattle men of the West, was killed yesterday at East Bijou, near Deer

bread, but in the absence of bread they soon failed. I speak but the simple truth when I say that I have often been so pinched with hunger that I have fought with the dog, old "Mep," for the smallest crumbs that fell from the kitchen table, and have been glad when I won a single crumb in the contest. Many times have I watched the waiting-girl when she went to shake the table-cloth, to get the crumbs and small bones flung out for the cats. The water in which meat had been boiled was an eagerly sought for by me. It was a great thing to get the privilege of dipping a piece of bread in such water, and the skin taken from rusty bacon was a positive luxury."

III.

"IN THE GOOD OLD SLAVERY DAYS."

It will be remembered that one of the boasts of those who owned slaves in the olden times was that their chattels were better cared for, more comfortably housed and abundantly fed, than were the peasantry of any country in the Old World. The experience of Mr. Douglass during his bondage does not bear out this statement. He is very distinct in his recollection of that time, and with much minuteness relates that the men and women who were slaves on the estate of his master received as their monthly allowance of food eight pounds of pickled pork or its equivalent in fish. The meat was often tainted and the fish of the very poorest quality. With the pork or fish the slave received one bushel of Indian meal, which was unbolted, and of which fully 15 per cent. was hardly fit to feed pigs. This, in addition to one pound of salt, was the entire monthly allowance of a full-grown man or woman, who was required to work constantly in the open air, from early morning till night, every day in the week except Sunday. The raiment provided for the slaves was quite as inadequate as was their food. The yearly allowance of clothes for grown slaves comprised two shirts of "tow linen," such material as that from which the coarsest crash towels are made; one pair of trousers of the same material for Summer, and a pair of trousers and a woolen jacket sewed together in the coarsest fashion for Winter; one pair of yarn stockings, and one pair of shoes of the very worst make. Children who were not old enough to do work, and who, in consequence, were of no profit to their masters, were entirely disregarded. In most instances neither clothes nor food were given to them. Mr. Douglass remembers that numbers of children, from 6 to 10 years of age, upon the plantation of his master, were seen constantly as destitute of covering as are the heathens in the wilds of Africa, the girls being no better provided for than were the boys. The shelter given to the slaves was not nearly so good as ordinary farmers would supply to their dogs or pigs. Even the common laws of decency were outraged in the most flagrant fashion. Old men and young men, girls and women, married and single, children and grandmothers slept together upon the common floor, scantily covered by filthy blankets, and huddled in each others' arms for better protection against the cold.

Nor was the treatment which the slaves received from those who had authority over them calculated to compensate for the lack of the physical comforts described. Whippings of the most cruel description were of frequent occurrence. Indeed, one of Mr. Douglass's earliest recollections was the horrible flogging of an unfortunate quadroon girl, who, loving a man of her own color, refused to submit to the embraces of her master.

Another instance of this terrible time in his life Mr. Douglass recalls with great vividness. Upon the estate of his master was a woman known as Nellie—surnames, as it is perhaps needless to state, have not fashionable among slaves. This woman was accused by one of the overseers of having been "impudent" to him, an offense on the part of a slave regarded as one of the most unpardonable. To punish it the overseer threatened to flog the woman, and caught her arm for that purpose. His efforts to drag her to a tree to tie her to it were stoutly resisted. In loud screams she declared that she would not be beaten, and, with a fury almost of a maniac, tried to release herself. Three of her children, ranging in age from 7 to 10 years, came gallantly to her assistance. One of the boys left the imprint of his little teeth in the overseer's leg. The woman herself scarred his face with her toil-hardened finger-nails, but she fought in vain. The rope was at last about her arms, she was tied to the tree, and, with the strength of a giant, while the agonizing cries of herself and her children resounded all about, the cowardly overseer tore her flesh with the cruel rawhide, never desisting until the poor wretch was almost dead from fright and loss of blood. Terribly as the woman had been beaten, however, there was no evidence that her defiant spirit had been broken. She was silenced, but not unflaunted. And in this connection it is of interest to note that one of the faults which slave-holders frequently found with one or another of their chattels was that he or she was "a silent nigger." By every means possible the bondmen were induced to make a noise. The sullen silence of despair was always dreaded by well-trained overseers, and a slave who could sing and keep his companions in the field cheerful was always highly prized. To this fact, among others, many persons who were familiar with the inner workings of the institution of slavery attribute the marked inclination which the bondmen displayed to be continually, while working, enraged in some chorus or song. Regarding this subject Mr. Douglass in later years, with much force, said:

"I did not, when a slave, understand the deep meanings of those rude and apparently incoherent songs. I was myself without home or kindred, I saw what was near at hand as those without might see and hear. They told a tale which was then altogether beyond my feeble comprehension; they were tones, loud and deep, breathing the prayer and complaint of souls toiling over with the bitterness of unrequited toil. They were tones of a testimony against slavery and a prayer to God for deliverance from chains. The hearing of those wild notes always depressed my spirits and filled my heart with inaffable sadness. The mere recurrence, even now, afflicts my spirits, and while I am writing these lines my tears are falling. I should like to have been able, when first my young heart sank under my first glimmering conceptions of the dehumanizing character of slavery, I say I can never get rid of that conception. Those songs still follow me, to deepen my hatred of slavery and quicken my sympathies for my brethren in bonds. If any one wishes to be impressed with a sense of the soul-chilling power of slavery, let him go to Col. Lloyd's plantation, and, on allowance day, place himself in the deep pine woods, and there let him, in silence, thoughtfully analyze the sounds that shall pass through the chambers of his soul, and if he is not thus impressed it will only be because 'there is no flesh in his obdurate heart.'"

The reader of these lines, written by a man who himself had tasted of the bitterness of slave life, may well believe that the songs of the bondmen were not quite those outpourings of joy and happiness which even to this day many an old slave-dealer would have the public believe.

IV.

SHOT TO DEATH.

The despairing cries of women and men who were being brutally beaten, and the plaintive songs of those who were forced to appear merry, even though they were sad, were not the only terrible sounds which in those days saluted the ears of young Douglass. It was also his fate to hear the last death cry of a man of his own color, shot down in cold blood by one of his master's overseers. The incidents of the tragedy well illustrate the habits of the time. Upon the old plantation of Douglass's master was a young black man known as Bill Denny. He was a powerful young fellow and a hard worker, but withal a man of a quick temper and fiery spirit.

In some way he offended his overseer, who attempted to whip him. Three or four cuts from the rawhide sank deep into the slave's flesh, and then, with the strength of madness, he broke from his keeper, dashed into an adjacent creek, and there, standing up to his neck in the water, defied the overseer, and refused to come upon the shore.

"Come out of there, Bill Denny, or I'll shoot you," cried the infuriated overseer.

"I'm not coming out to be whipped," resolutely responded the slave.

"Come out or I swear I'll shoot you."

"I won't," was the response.

"I will give you three calls; if you don't come in the last you are a dead man. Will you come out?"

"No; I won't be whipped."

"Will you come out?"

"No; I won't be whipped."

"Will you come out? for the third time," cried the overseer, and for the third time the black man replied:

"No; I won't be whipped."

They were the last words he ever spoke on earth. Deliberately the overseer raised his gun and took deadly aim; there was a flash and a report, and black Bill Denny, who had dared to defy the authority of his master, was sent to a better world.

Was this crime punished? some innocent reader unacquainted with the slave system may ask. No, it was not. The occurrence created some little commotion in the neighborhood, but, it being everywhere conceded that defiant slaves must be got rid of in some way, Col. Lloyd, the owner of the plantation, and the only man who could bring the culprit to justice, dismissed him with a reprimand, which was doubtless called forth more from anger at the loss of a valuable piece of property than horror at the commission of a terrible crime.

Though witnessing many acts of cruelty and crime almost as cold-blooded as that related, young Douglass during his early boyhood could not complain of any personal cruelty practiced upon himself. His main trouble was from hunger and cold, though, as he says himself, he suffered less from hunger than from the elements. In strong and epigrammatic language he says upon this subject: "In hottest Summer and coldest Winter I was kept almost in a state of nudity—no shoes, no stockings, no jacket, no trousers, nothing but coarse sackcloth or 'tow linen' made into a sort of shirt reaching down to my knees. This I wore night and day, changing it only once a week. In the Winter time I could, during the day, protect myself by keeping on the sunny side of the house, and in bad weather in the corner of the kitchen chimney. The great difficulty was to keep warm during the night. I had no bed. The pigs in the pen had leaves, the horses in the stable had straw, but the children had no beds; they lodged anywhere. I slept generally in a little closet, without even a blanket to cover me. In very cold weather I sometimes got down the bag in which corn-meal was usually carried to the mill and crawled into that, sleeping there with my head in and my feet out. I was partly protected, though not comfortable. My feet were at times so cracked with the frost that a good sized knife-blade might be laid in the gashes."

V.

A HAPPY CHANGE.

Housed, fed, and clothed as described, surrounded by such terrible scenes as those related, the boy passed what he now believes to have been about three years, and then, when, according to his best recollection, he was about 10 years old, a happy change occurred in his situation. By the orders of his master he was sent to Baltimore to live with a relative of his owner's family. His new master, and particularly his mistress, proved at first to be very kind and warm-hearted people. They owned no slaves of their own, and had not been under the degrading influence which seemed almost to belong to such proprietorship. The lady of the house was a religious woman in more senses than that of church-going, and under her care the boy of quick intelligence and really remarkable natural ability rapidly gained much useful information, and quickly developed many qualities which, under other circumstances, would doubtless have lain dormant. It was in this new home that Frederick Douglass learned to read, so laying the foundation for that better education which in the years afterward made him a marked man, not only among his own people, but among all the citizens of this country. He first acquired a desire to learn to read by hearing his mistress reading the Bible. One day, knowing nothing of the fact that he was making what was then regarded in the slave States as an unlawful request, he went to the lady and said to her frankly, "Please, Missy, will you teach me to read?" To which simple and pathetic appeal the kind woman at once gave an affirmative response. By her aid and by diligent study he soon made himself master of the alphabet, and shortly was able to spell words of three or four letters. The lady of the house was so proud of her pupil that one evening she informed her husband of the lessons she was giving him, and exultingly exclaimed:

"He is getting on so rapidly that I soon expect to have him reading the Bible."

"What!" cried her husband almost in consternation, "you are teaching that nigger to read?"

"Yes," she said, amazed at his tone, "as I tell you, and he is getting along nicely."

"He must get along no further," was the peremptory response of the master of the house, and then he continued by explaining to his wife that it was not only unsafe and impolitic to teach slaves to read, but that it was actually unlawful to do so. In conclusion, he said, and his words sank deep into the heart of the little black boy, who heard them:

"If you give a nigger an inch he will take an ell. Learning would spoil the best one of them in the world. If you were to teach that boy how to read the Bible, there would be no keeping him; such knowledge could do him only harm—at any rate, could only make him discontented and unhappy. Besides, if you teach him to read he would soon want to write, and when he had acquired that accomplishment the next thing he would do would be to run away."

Obedient to the wish of her husband, Fred's mistress after this lecture not only refused to assist him in learning to read, but threw every obstacle in the way of his acquiring such knowledge unaided. But all her efforts were without avail. The boy had learned the alphabet—he had received the inch and soon demonstrated that he intended to take the ell. He was determined at all hazards to learn to read. By some means he secured a Webster's Spelling-book, and with this constantly by him, whenever he was sent into the street upon an errand, he, by the help of a number of white boys with whom he had struck up an acquaintance, continued his spelling lessons. So, little by little, he learned to read.

VI.

LEARNING UNDER DIFFICULTY.

Having gained this knowledge, his next desire was to learn to write. He did so by a most ingenious process. Near his master's house there was a ship-yard, to which he was allowed to go during his hours of leisure, and in which he observed the carpenters, after cutting and getting a plank or piece of timber ready for use, write on it the initials of the name of that part of the ship for which it was destined. For instance, when a plank was ready for the starboard bow it was marked "S. B.," and so on for the different parts of the vessel. The boy quickly saw for what purpose these letters were intended and learned to make them. Then he concluded that if he could make the four or five letters which he had seen employed by the carpenters he could make all those in the alphabet. Again, he had recourse to his playmates for assistance, and with fences, pavements, and chips for his copy-books, and chalk for his pen and ink, he learned the rudiments of writing. Subsequently he adopted numerous expedients for improving his hand. Among others, he copied all the italics in his Webster's Spelling-book, and finding a stray copy-book belonging to the son of his mistress he retraced the letters written by the white boy, and then in the spaces between the lines improved upon them. So he became an accomplished penman. Learning rapidly, picking up all sorts of odd information, and reading every stray scrap of printed paper which came into his possession, Fred Douglass remained in Baltimore until his sixteenth year. Then, suddenly, because of the death of his owner, he was sent to St. Michael's, a small village on the Eastern Shore, Maryland. His new master, a relative of his former owner, into whose possession he came by inheritance, professed to be an exceedingly pious man; was, indeed, continually prating of religion, and engaged in what he delighted to call "bringing souls to Jesus." Despite all his religion, however, and his desire to save souls, he was, as Mr. Douglass remembers him, one of the meanest, cruelest, and most pusillanimous of men. For instance, shortly after the boy arrived at St. Michael's he formed the acquaintance of a young white man named Wilson, who was indeed a Christian in the very best sense of the term. This young man asked the slave boy if he would assist him in establishing a Sabbath-school at the house of a free negro who lived in the neighborhood. The idea was at once eagerly seized upon by Douglass, and, relying upon the well-known and widely proclaimed religious connections of his master for protection, he at once consented to the plan proposed by Wilson. Together they soon mustered up a few spelling-books and a number of Testaments and hymn-books, and with these and some 20 colored scholars commenced their school. The first Sabbath spent in teaching these children was a delightful one to the slave boy. He felt perhaps for the first time in his life that he had a mission in the world. He saw that he could be useful to his fellow-beings, and he was more happy than he could express; but his happiness was not to continue. During the week which followed the first meeting of the school it became noised all over the neighborhood that Wilson and the young negro, Douglass, were teaching slave children how to read! At this outrage upon the rights of the slave masters the wildest indignation was expressed, and as the event proved even the pious master of Douglass was lured in his declamations against what was regarded as a violation of the sacred rights of the chattel-owner. But no word of this indignation reached the young teachers, and on the second Sabbath their little school came together as before. Hardly had it assembled, however, and even while Douglass and his companions were teaching their little pupils the story of the sufferings of the Son of God, when a mob, headed by Douglass's master and two other deacons of the church, rushed in, armed with sticks and other missiles, and drove both teachers and pupils out into the road. So the colored Sabbath-school was broken up, and more than ever young Douglass was made to feel the bitterness of the life of a slave. From this time on the discontent with his lot which he had previously experienced continued to increase rapidly. He became morose, silent, and sullen, and, as his master declared, rebellious and unmanageable. There may have been some cause for these complaints against him. At all events, his master determined that he would bear with him no longer, and announced that he had made up his mind to send him out to be "broken."

VII.

"BREAKING IN A NIGGER."

Not far from the town of St. Michael's there lived a man named Covey, a poor man, who rented his land, and who enjoyed the distinction of being a first-class breaker in of young negroes—that is to say, he was known to be a cruel task-master, exacting to a degree, a giant in strength, and with great tenacity of purpose. Possessing these qualities, he had early developed an aptitude for bringing unruly young black men to their senses, very much as some men develop a talent for breaking in ungovernable horses. Indeed, there is a very shrewd suspicion that the methods employed by Mr. Covey to bring black boys to submission were not dissimilar to those employed by horse-breakers. So noted was he in the direction indicated that numerous slave-holders believed it to be a positive advantage to give into his hands the government of their slaves for a year or two, that they might, under his fostering care, be trained up in the way they should go. They were also sure of having their spiritual welfare looked after, for Mr. Covey, like many of his class, was a strict member of the church. It was to this man that high-spirited young Frederick Douglass, on the morning of the first day of January, 1834, was conveyed to be broken in.

Speaking of that epoch in his history, Mr. Douglass, with marked pathos, said:

"There was neither joy in my heart nor elasticity in my step as I started in search of the tyrant's home. Starvation made me glad to leave my old master's, and the cruel lash made me dread to go to Covey's. Escape was impossible. So, heavy and sad, I paced the seven miles which separated Covey from St. Michael's, thinking much by the solitary way. Like a fish in a net, allowed to play for a time, I was now drawn rapidly to the shore, secured at all points. I thought, I am but the sport of a power which makes no account of my welfare or of my happiness. By my will I can clearly comprehend, but cannot evade or resist. I am ruthlessly matched from the heart of a fond grandmother and hurled away to the home of a mysterious 'old master.' Again, I am removed from there to a master in Baltimore; thence am I snatched away to the shore, to be violently mixed with the beasts of the field, and with them divided and set apart for a possessor; then I am sent back to Baltimore, and by the time I have formed new attachments and begun to hope that no more troubled chance will befall me, I am broken up and sent to St. Michael's, and now, from the latter place, I am footing my way to the home of a new master, where I am given to understand that, like a wild young working animal, I am to be broken to the yoke of a bitter and lifelong bondage."

The young man's anticipations of the lot which was before him were not mistaken ones. He had not been in the possession of Covey three days before, for some trumped-up offense—no actual reason was assigned—he was brutally beaten. Under the heavy blows of the negro-breaker, blood flowed from his back, and the welts left upon his shoulders were as large as a man's finger. The sores remaining from this flogging were continually kept open by the rough and coarse cloth which he was obliged to wear, and for weeks afterward the young man lived on suffering the keenest agony. During the year which he remained with Covey he was continually obliged to submit to the same cruel treatment. As he says himself, aching pains and a sore back were his constant companions. But, frequently as the lash was used upon him, it was not Mr. Covey's only means of breaking his spirit. Hard and long-continued labor was also brought into play. The boy was worked steadily up to the very last point of his endurance. From the moment that day broke until black darkness had set in he was kept hard at work plowing in the fields or hauling wood from the forest. At certain seasons of the year he, together with all the other hands, were kept in the fields sometimes as late as 11 and 12 o'clock at night, and all the time they were urged to extra exertion by the smarting lash of a rawhide whip.

Regarding his experience with the brute who at this time had control of him, Mr. Douglass in later years wrote:

"If at any one time of my life more than another I was made to drink the bitterest dregs of slavery, that time was during the first six months of my stay with Mr. Covey. We were worked in all weathers. It was never too hot or too cold; it could never rain, blow, snow, or hail too hard for us to work in the field. Work, work, work was scarcely more the order of the day than of the night. The longest days were generally given to us, and when night, finally, closed upon us we were worked in all weathers. It was never too hot or too cold; it could never rain, blow, snow, or hail too hard for us to work in the field. Work, work, work was scarcely more the order of the day than of the night. The longest days were generally given to us, and when night, finally, closed upon us we were so much exhausted as to render it necessary that we should be allowed some time for rest. How we could manage to do this will always be a mystery to me. We were at the very commencement of the day's toil, and at the end of it, so fatigued that we could hardly stand, and when our feet touched the floor they seemed to have suddenly become rooted to the spot. Our clothes were stiff with the sweat and dirt of the day, and we were literally covered with dust. In this state we were allowed, just as we were, to throw ourselves upon the floor, and get a little sleep before we were called to go to work in the morning. Sleep we did, and that soundly, but not long enough to wash away our sweat, or even to change our clothes. Revolting as was the filth with which we were compelled to associate, it was not the greatest hardship we had to endure. The field was the place of labor, the whole field, and the only place for labor. Work was the general order, and the penalty for disobedience was the lash. Mr. Covey gave us enough of both. He was a poor man, and worked hard himself, and we were worked with him. He was a cruel master, and worked us hard and whipped us hard. He was, in fact, a man of one idea, and that idea was how to get the most work out of his hands. To this end he directed his energies, and to this end he literally bent his body and broke down our spirits. He knew no such thing as allowing us any time for rest, and gave us none. He seldom gave us a direct order to work, but would stand by, and watch us with the eye of a hawk, and if he saw any one idle, he would dash upon him like a tiger upon his prey. Cuffs, kicks, and blows were the penalty for any violation of his will. He was a complete master of the art of tormenting. He would sometimes, when we were all tired and hungry, and had finished our day's work, and were preparing to go to the house, order us to go to the woods and bring home a heavy load of wood, which would require at least an hour to perform. Before we had time to get through with this, he would order us to some other work, and by the time we got to the house we were scarcely able to stand. Long before daylight he was upon us with his cowhide, and we were compelled to start to the field. Scarcely had we reached the field before he was upon us, and commenced his cursing and whipping. He seemed to take pleasure in whipping us, and seemed to think he was doing God service by it. He was literally a religious man, and prayed morning, noon, and night. He prayed long prayers, and strong prayers, and seemed to be very strong in the faith. He was noted among the slaves for his religious character, and had the credit of being a good Christian by nearly all who knew him. He was one of the few slaveholders who succeeded in getting religion enough to imagine that religion consisted in worshiping God, and in treating his fellow-men kindly. He prayed in his house, and prayed in the woods, and prayed wherever he went. He could quote Scripture for every purpose. He was just the man to whom religion was a valuable aid in the art of slaveholding. It was meat, drink, and clothing to him. It supplied him with the means of hiding the most shocking barbarity, and made him master of the situation. He could, and did, whip us on religious principles, and no slaveholder around us could excel him in the extent of his religious influence. He was, in short, a model slaveholder. He lived for the good opinion of his brother slaveholders, and was regarded by them as a shining light. Such was the character of the man to whom I was hired for the year 1833. I shall not soon forget the first interview between us. He was very much pleased with my appearance, and assured me that I should be treated very kindly if I behaved myself properly. He said he was a religious man, and loved religious people, and that he was a church member himself. He said he was a kind master, and that he never whipped any of his hands without a reason. He said he was a good deal troubled with slaves who were in the habit of running away, but that he had never had any of that class of property to run away from him, and he thanked God for it

THE LAND LEAGUE'S REIGN

REVOLUTIONARY OF THE "BOYCOTT" TYPE.

CRIME-JUDGES HAVE DISCRETIONAL LAWLESS —WHAT OTHER JUDGES HAVE SAID— TYRANNY OF THE LAND LEAGUE—A LAUGHTER SHOT DEAD.

DUBLIN, Dec. 11.—It so happens that of the four Judges who constitute the Irish Court of Queen's Bench, three were in Stato Trials of 1844 and 1848, and the fourth was counsel for the Crown in the latter. Hence their opinions on the Land League are of peculiar value. They were not, as usual, sent to the Privy Council, but were delivered in open Court, and have been published in full. Their unanimity is remarkable, and their language is strong. Judge Fitzgerald, who was the leading Judge in 1844, and who presided at the trial of the Young Irelanders, said:

"The Land League has been established for the purpose of inducing the tenants to withhold their rents, and to combine together to prevent any of them from taking farms from which tenants have been evicted. The means adopted to accomplish this object are the boycotting of persons who take such farms, and the intimidation of persons who deal with them. The Land League has established courts of its own, and has appointed persons to act as judges in those courts, and has established a machinery for the purpose of enforcing the decrees of those courts. The Land League has also established a system of registration, by which it has ascertained the names of persons who have taken farms from which tenants have been evicted, and has published those names in the newspapers, and has placed them under the ban of the League. It has also established a system of espionage, by which it has ascertained the names of persons who have attended fairs and markets for the purpose of buying cattle or other property which had been taken from evicted tenants, and has published the names of such persons, and has placed them under the ban of the League. It has also established a system of espionage, by which it has ascertained the names of persons who have attended auctions of evicted farms, and has published the names of such persons, and has placed them under the ban of the League. It has also established a system of espionage, by which it has ascertained the names of persons who have taken

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The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, DEC. 27, 1880.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ARBUCKLE'S PARK THEATRE—Yorker'd Love.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Uncle Tom's Cabin.
AQUARIUM—Matinée at 2—Evening.
BIJOU OPERA-HOUSE—Olivette.
BOOTH'S THEATRE—Uncle Tom's Cabin.
BUNNELL'S MUSEUM—Curiosities.
DALY'S THEATRE—Needles and Pins.
GRAND OPERA-HOUSE—The Danites.
HAVERLY'S FIFTH-AVENUE—Pasio.
HAVERLY'S NIBLO'S GARDEN—Humpty Dumpty.
HAVERLY'S 14TH-ST. THEATRE—Babes in the Wood.
MADISON-SQUARE THEATRE—Hazel Kirke.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS—Variety.
STANDARD THEATRE—My Geraldine.
THEATRE COMIQUE—Mulligan Guards' Nominee.
UNION-SQUARE THEATRE—The Banker's Daughter.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—Forget Me Not.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

TERMS, POSTAGE PAID.

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The Daily Times, per annum, exclusive of the Sunday edition.....10 00
The Sunday edition, per annum.....2 00
The Semi-Weekly Times, per annum.....3 00
The Weekly Times, per annum.....1 00
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BRANCH OFFICES OF THE TIMES.

The Times Up-town Office—No. 1,323 Broadway.
Paris Office of The Times—Bureau of *The Parisian*, No. 9 Rue Scribe.
The Times is on sale in London at No. 449 Strand, W. C., by Henry F. Gillig & Co., and at Mr. Stevens's, No. 4 Trafalgar-square.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The date printed on the wrapper of each paper denotes the time when the subscription expires.

The Signal Service Bureau report indicates for to-day, in this region, clear or clearing weather, northerly to easterly winds, rising barometer, a slight change in temperature during the day, and by Tuesday night decidedly colder weather.

The necessity, or, at least, the desirableness, of national regulation of railways at no remote date is suggested by the annoyances experienced by passengers on the new line between this City and Washington. Persons who are unfortunate or daring enough to take this line are liable to be detained anywhere from twenty minutes to two hours by obstructions placed in the way of their trains on a mile of track which is common to this line and the Pennsylvania Railroad. Our Philadelphia dispatches yesterday morning threw some light on the motives which induce the Pennsylvania Company to pursue this course. They are of that disinterested and loyal character common to the railway "kings" of the present day, and relate directly to the profits of the passenger traffic. The Pennsylvania Road has heretofore enjoyed the privilege of charging more for through passengers than for way passengers over the same route, of running slow trains at inconvenient hours and in an undesirable fashion in order to compel passengers to pay $3 50 (of which it received one-half) for a seat in a "palace" car, and generally doing whatever was pleasing to its corporate soul. This valuable privilege will be considerably curtailed if the new line is allowed to go on with its enterprise, and hence the war upon it—a war which is wholly contrary to public interests, and yet which it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to stop under State laws.

Our letter from Knoxville, Tenn., this morning, gives but a gloomy impression of the prospect of any substantial outcome from the revival of honest sentiment with reference to the payment of the debt of the State. It appears that the feeling in favor of repudiating a considerable portion of the debt is gaining ground since the election, and is shared, in some degree, by Republican members of the Legislature. According to the figures given by our correspondent, the Republicans and "debt-paying" Democrats have a considerable majority in the Legislature, and it is difficult to see what is to prevent an honest settlement if there be the requisite disposition. It is certain that no graver mistake could be made by the Republicans than to coquet with repudiation. Tennessee can never start on a career of real prosperity until some fair settlement of the debt is made, and the party would be greatly hindered in its future if it aided in preventing such a consummation. No immediate advantage, however flattering in appearance, would compensate for the immense injury which would come from encouragement of public dishonesty.

Those of our readers who are interested in the details of the organization and management of our regular Army—and there are very few who are not so interested—will read with a certain eagerness the letter from Washington which we publish this morning. It gives an insight into a good many things which are not generally heard of outside of Army circles. That the tendency in a small army, with many officers and few men, is to build up a class of officers not very convenient to dispose of, and to give rise to jealousies and suspicion of favoritism, is obvious. The recent detail of Gen. Howard at West Point has brought these feelings into activity, and the Fitz John Porter case has had a still more striking influence. The former step has been generally approved by the country, and we do not believe that either Mr. Hayes or Mr. Garfield is likely to make any serious mistake as to the latter.

An incident not without value in the career of M. Thiers, late President of the French Republic, was related in the letter of our Paris correspondent yesterday morning. That gentleman was in a position to know accurately the facts which he relates, namely, that on the 10th of March an army corps of 12,000 men was at Charenton, and received an order to proceed at once to Paris, but after the two divisions of the corps were concentrated, the men selected who could be relied on, transportation ready, and the co-operation of the Germans secured, the corps was delayed three days, and, finally, the order to proceed to Paris was changed, and the corps was broken up. This, our correspondent believes, was a fatal error, and gave the Commune a chance to gain head, which cost Paris the long and terrible siege which followed. This incident is quite in harmony with many facts which show that with M. Thiers's great qualities was strangely mixed his unfortunate confidence in his capacity to manage military matters on a large and small scale with as much skill as Napoleon.

The powers have agreed between themselves to settle the territorial dispute between Greece and Turkey by arbitration, but Greece refuses their offer point-blank, and the Porte is not disposed to accept it. The proposal was at best but an expedient by which the powers hoped to gain time and keep the Greek Army from taking the field. The day for arbitration is past. Greece looks upon the frontier line traced at Berlin as sanctioned by the will of Europe, and she, at least, has no intention of submitting the case to a new tribunal, by whose verdict she could gain nothing and might lose much. It is the old story of Turkey defying all Europe, for there is no doubt that the powers intended the Berlin settlement to be final. If England were free of her troubles in Ireland and South Africa, or if Barthelemy St. Hilaire were a little less timid, the Hellenic people would be in possession of Epirus and Thessaly even in advance of the date they have fixed for opening their campaign against the Turks.

GOVERNMENT AND ITS EMPLOYES.

We have already called attention to the expressions of Mr. Conkling in the Senate on Wednesday last with reference to the relations between the Government and its employes. We find them reported in full in the *Record* of Thursday. They were as follows:

"When the Government attempts to follow one of its employes, be he an office-holder or anybody else, beyond the limits of the hours which belong to the Government, and undertakes to tell him whether in hours which are his own he shall devote his time to the efforts of inventive genius, or whether he shall attend religious or spiritual meetings or political meetings, or shall do anything else, the Government, in my opinion, is a tyrant—not a petty tyrant, as an individual might be, but a bald, insolent usurper—and it is the birthright of every American citizen to stand against such insolent intrusion.

"It has happened sometimes; I have heard of it; I have heard of an executive order which undertook to visit the employe of the Government, not in business hours, not in respect of the time belonging to the Government, but to follow him into the privacy, the solitude, the secrecy of his own personal life and opportunity, and dare to oversee him as to the disposition he should make of his time and his wheresbouts."

The tone of these remarks is quite characteristic of Mr. Conkling. It is not intended to be persuasive, but it is meant to be plausible. The Senator takes great pains to mix up the rights of a Government official in regard to political action with his rights in regard to religious meetings or the efforts of his inventive genius and other occupations relating to what he calls the official's "personal life and opportunity." And he denounces any control of the former and any interference with the latter as equally offensive, unjustifiable, and tyrannical. Then he falls foul of President Hayes's executive order, which, in the remote and inaccessible regions where the Senator dwells, he "has heard of," and vents upon it his unrestrained rage.

We do not suppose that Mr. Conkling sees anything in this parade of virtuous indignation either disingenuous or ludicrous, but we can assure him that it appears both one and the other to a great many sensible people who are just as careful of individual rights as he is, and that the numbers of this class are steadily increasing. There is a very distinct line of demarkation between the perfect liberty of office-holders as to certain kinds of political action, and the liberty to which he is generally entitled in private life, which it appears disingenuous in so able a man as Mr. Conkling to ignore. And there is something excessively comical in the high and mighty way in which the Senator denounces tyranny, which, if it existed, would be insignificant compared with that in which he has himself very frequently taken part. The distinction to which we refer rests on the manner in which the office-holders in this country generally get their places and keep them. They are, as Mr. Conkling very well knows, selected, other things being equal, and often when other things are not equal, from the most active workers in the political service of a party, a faction, or a manager; and they keep their places, for the most part, on condition that they will use all the influence they can command, from whatever source it may come, in the active pursuit of that service. The result is that when they enter on the preliminary work of party politics, in primaries, caucuses, and conventions, they do not stand on the same footing as others not in the employ of the Government. Those holding positions in which they can determine the employment of others, command their adherence, something as superiors command inferiors in the Army. Those who are dependent for retention or promotion or favorable treatment on others above them obey these much as soldiers obey officers. The one class is capable of exerting, and does exert, a preponderating influence quite different from and quite beyond that of the unofficial citizen; the other class, in its turn, is not moved by the same motives or open to the same considerations as the citizen not in Government service.

This being the case, it is perfectly legitimate for the President, who is the head of the civil service, to say that his subordinates shall not go into this preliminary political work at all, because it is perfectly proper for him to protect the great body of his fellow-citizens from any interference with their equality of political rights, based on and made possible by the conditions of public employment. In the same way he has a clear right to forbid anything in the nature of political assessments on office-holders, or any solicitation of them by men who are supposed to be in a position to enforce their requests by their influence upon appointments, dismissals, and promotions. Both of these rights on the part of the President spring from his obligation, as far as he can, to prevent all interference from any source with the independence of citizens in political matters. But we are quite willing to admit that the remedies, in both these cases, do not go to the root of the evil, and that that can only be reached by changing the conditions of entrance and retention in the service of the Government. If Mr. Conkling will exert even a small part of his great influence in bringing about this reform, he will remove all occasion for such outbursts as he was betrayed into the other day. If it were settled that no man could enter the service, or be promoted in it, except by successful competitive examination and due probation, and that no politician, Congressman, or Senator could help or hinder him, there would be no occasion for forbidding his activity in politics or for protecting him from assessments. This is the change in the service which is becoming every day more necessary and more certain. Its immense advantages are becoming constantly better understood, and the firm and intelligent public opinion to which it appeals is far stronger and more lasting than that which is excited by Mr. Conkling's denunciation of the President for his very innocent and, we are sorry to say, very fruitless, attempt at reforming a single bad feature of the present system.

CANADA AND THE FISHERY QUESTION.

While the people of this country regard without excitement and almost without interest the renewal of negotiations between our Government and that of Great Britain with regard to the so-called "Fortune Bay outrage" of January, 1878, the press of Canada gives evidence of a peculiarly ill-natured sensitiveness on the subject in the Dominion. The President's intimation that the British Government had of its own motion renewed the consideration of the question at issue, and shown a disposition toward a friendly agreement "by a recognition of our right to an indemnity," leaving the measure of such indemnity to future conference, and by an assent to the view that the regulation of conflicting interests should be made the subject of concurrent arrangement between the two Governments, was the first occasion for an outbreak of ill-temper. While a variety of stinging epithets were more or less promiscuously bestowed upon the presumptuous "Yankees" who "ride roughshod over our fishery laws" and make the "monstrous contention" that their treaty rights are not to be exercised subject to the municipal laws of Newfoundland, still more severe phrases were flung at the Gladstone Government for rushing "with indecent haste" to prostrate itself before the "republican Moloch." The publication of Earl Granville's amiable but extremely diplomatic letter to Mr. Lowell started the Tory newspapers of Canada anew to a ferocious attack on the Liberal Government of the Empire, interlarded with more unkind remarks about the "extortioners at Washington" and the greed and lawlessness of Brother Jonathan. The British Foreign Secretary is accused of sacrificing colonial interests, abandoning an impregnable position, and giving away the whole case.

This exhibition of temper appears to us to be extremely foolish and wholly uncalled for. The Fortune Bay affair is not in itself of prodigious importance, nor has it ever produced any excitement of feeling in this country, except among the fishermen of Gloucester, but it did bring up a point of some consequence in regard to the interpretation of that part of the treaty of Washington relating to the fisheries. Mr. Evarts made a demand for indemnity for the losses and injuries suffered by the fishermen whose nets were destroyed and whose vessels were driven off by a lawless Newfoundland mob. If his view of the rights secured by the treaty was correct, they were entitled to this, and he could not consistently insist upon that view without making the demand. Lord Salisbury, after considerable correspondence and much submission of memoranda, argued in favor of a different interpretation of the treaty provisions, and reached the conclusion that the claim for compensation was "one which could not be entertained." Evidently there was no more to be said to my Lord Salisbury on that particular question, and Congress was advised to reimpose the duties on the products of provincial fisheries, which had been remitted in part consideration for privileges extravagantly paid for under the Halifax award, and now, it was claimed, seriously curtailed by Newfoundland legislation. A bill for the purpose was pending when Congress adjourned last June. Before that body assembled again the change of Government in England had led to the renewal of negotiations by Earl Granville in the hope of bringing about an amicable understanding.

The main difference, after all, between the present Secretary's communication and that of the Marquis of Salisbury is in the spirit which it exhibits. It shows a desire to be reasonable and to come to a friendly understanding, but lays stress chiefly on the proposition that some international regulation of the exercise of privileges granted by an international agreement should be adopted. It is perfectly manifest that no other can be effectual. The American rights in the in-shore fisheries were not granted by the Province of Newfoundland, and it is absurd to suppose that they can be subject to whatever restriction its legislation may impose. Lord Salisbury himself admitted that the provincial authorities could not modify or curtail privileges really granted by the treaty, but he contended that only such as were enjoyed by British subjects were granted, and that taking herring with seines handled from the shore was, in effect prohibited by the treaty itself. Lord Granville does not admit that the laws of Newfoundland, which are binding on British fishermen, can be actually ignored by Americans. He says the provincial fishermen had no right to take the law into their own hands and commit acts of violence, and he grants that local regulations, to be enforced without violation of treaty rights, must be reasonable. His offer of indemnity is made subject to this general view of the subject and to the proviso that the losses and injuries alleged must be shown upon joint inquiry to be such as are "reasonably entitled to compensation." He further says plainly that the American fishermen were not entitled under the treaty to strand-fishing, which is precisely what they were engaged in when the alleged outrage was committed.

It is not altogether certain that the indemnity which Lord Granville professes that his Government is ready to make would prove to be very substantial or altogether satisfactory. Neither is there any reason to believe that he will, so far as the past is concerned, adopt the American view as expressed by Mr. Evarts "that the fishery rights of the United States conceded by the treaty of Washington are to be exercised wholly free from the restraints and regulations of the statutes of Newfoundland." But if the Fortune Bay affair can be disposed of by some sort of amicable agreement that shall get it out of the way, there will be a fair prospect of accord on the subject of regulation in the future. It is tolerably certain that this country will never concede that privileges obtained by a treaty with Great Britain, and more than liberally paid for under the award of a commission of arbitration, are to be regulated or restricted by a Province which is its chief rival in the enjoyment of the privileges. Probably Great Britain, to whose imperial jurisdiction the Province belongs, will not concede that the privileges are to be exercised independent of all such regulation as the provincials have to submit to, and as are regarded as necessary to preserve the value and productiveness of the fisheries. But both powers may readily agree to such regulations as will prove mutually acceptable.

THE CULPRIT DISCOVERED.

Never since the remote period in juvenile history when all animated nature was engaged in discussing the question, "Who killed Cock Robin?" has there been such an ardent search for a villain as during the past few months of the political year. Immediately after the great Democratic reverse in Indiana there was an avalanche of explanation. While most of the Democratic newspapers were agreed in saying that this could not happen again, not one did agree with any other as to the real cause of the disaster. It is said in Holy Writ that the stars, in their courses, fought against Sisera; and a few of the more devout of the Democratic Party were willing to accept a supernatural reason for their overthrow. But, for the most part, Democratic speakers and writers preferred to fix the responsibility for their defeat upon some real person. It was much more satisfactory to find the actual culprit, and point the finger of scorn at him, than to hunt down an abstract principle, or even a system adopted by the opposite party. It was certain that some one man had done this mischief.

A similar line of inquiry, with similarly fruitless results, was pursued after the November election. No man was more resolute and relentless in this philosophical and political inquest than the big chief of Tammany Hall. In October he thought that the Democratic defeat was chargeable to Republican corruption. And he cheerfully remarked that the Democrats, in November, would only have to meet the voters of the individual States, not all the States rolled into one or two, as was the case in Ohio and Indiana in October. But when the November defeat was assured, and the lists of dead and wounded were accessible to men of even the meanest capacity, Mr. Kelly was the victim of a temporary mental paralysis. For once he had nothing to say. But when his rare intelligence rallied, and he found speech, he gave as his solemn view of the case an opinion—since quoted approvingly by Democratic newspapers—that the City of New-York had been inundated by repeaters from Vermont, Massachusetts, and the District of Columbia.

Only one short week ago Mr. Kelly, after due cogitation and calculation, proclaimed that he had found the culprit. In a letter addressed to the public through the columns of his morning newspaper, Kelly showed to his own satisfaction that Samuel J. Tilden had defeated Hancock. This result was reached (to the abandonment of all previous theories) by a series of mathematical propositions which were well calculated to dismay any man not familiar with political statistics. The average Democrat scanned the array of figures in a dazed sort of way, and remarked, "Begorra, the ould man's right." But one week has wrought a marvelous change. We cannot tell what Kelly now thinks is the cause of the Democratic overthrow. But, with very general concurrence of opinion, the Democrats in and out of Tammany Hall have decided that the real culprit is John Kelly.

While this bold theory was entertained by Democrats in other States than New-York, not much attention was aroused. It was felt that these foreign critics were to be tolerated, just as men smile good-naturedly when Kansas farmers ascribe the plague of grasshoppers to spots on the sun. But when New-York Democrats, members of the Tammany organization, frankly said that they believed that the mad and selfish ambition of John Kelly defeated the New-York Democracy, the big chief was as speechless as Bumble was when Oliver Twist asked for more. Such presumption was never heard of before, and Kelly, beside himself with rage, called his braves about him and demanded that they should repel this slander. A few of "the phalanx," as the chief calls his body-guard, repeated their old war-cries. But the greater portion of the faction sullenly said that Kelly did it. Plainly, it was becoming the custom to lay the blame upon John Kelly.

Many Democrats and members of Tammany Hall, and tried and true defenders of the faith as exemplified in Kelly, do not hesitate to say that John Kelly, being so much more set upon continuing himself in the Controllership than upon anything else, threw away the last election. The names of these accusers are known and read of all men. One of these, Alderman Sheils, whose fawning devotion to Kelly has been notorious, called on the big chief, the other day, and was ordered out of the presence as "a traitor and a loafer." Even the athletic Purroy is said to be wavering in his faith, and those eminent statesmen, Patrick Keenan and Augustus Schell, have turned their backs on the architect of Democratic ruin. There was once a man who, when a great robbery had been committed, pursued several imaginary offenders into the darkness, crying "Stop thief!" Him one acute thief-taker finally grasped as the real culprit. Mr. John Kelly has ceased his accusations. He has enough now to do to defend himself against his late friends and associates.

INDIAN JUGGLERY.

People have often asked why some enterprising theatrical manager does not bring one of the wonderful jugglers of India to Europe or to this country. We have had Japanese jugglers who proved to be much inferior to such Occidental wizards as Houdin and Herrmann, and we are soon to witness Nautch dances by genuine Nautch girls, but no East Indian juggler has ever left his native country. Everybody has heard of the amazing miracles performed almost daily in India. The stories of the juggler who throws a ball of cord into the air, where it remains long enough for him to climb up by it until he disappears from sight; or of the juggler who carves a boy as he might carve a chicken, and then reconstructs the boy out of a heap of disjointed limbs and miscellaneous organs, are familiar to us all. They are often quoted by Spiritualists as proof that miracles even more astonishing than the composition of bad poetry by the spirit of John Milton are actually worked by the "occultists" of the Orient, and are often retold in the newspapers as having been vouched for by that rather vague person, "a recent traveler." Were one of these incomparable Eastern jugglers to be brought to Europe by a theatrical manager, the latter would make a certain and enormous fortune within a very short time. And yet the very men who import cheap Japanese jugglers or the more interesting Nautch girls never make the slightest effort to secure a real miracle-working fakir. This is certainly very strange, and, in fact, quite unaccountable, except upon a hypothesis which is as rude as it is unwarranted.

The mention of East Indian jugglers and their feats must at this particular period remind every one who knows the facts of the recent marvelous disappearance of a small boy in Blackboro, Mass. At the request of those most nearly interested, the affair has thus far been quietly ignored by the press, but it is now understood that there is no need of any further mystery in the matter. The facts, according to Mr. Ebenezer Lathrop, a leading citizen and undertaker of Blackboro, are briefly as follows, and will be found intensely interesting:

Mr. Lathrop is not a Spiritualist, but until lately he has taken a good deal of interest in Spiritualism, and has sometimes expressed the belief that there may be "somethin orother" in it. Three weeks ago there came to Blackboro a professional medium, Mr. G. T. Horner, who alleged that he was traveling for pleasure, but who, at the request of a local believer in spirits, consented to hold a *séance* at the house of Mr. Lathrop, whose professional acquaintance with departed Blackboro citizens might reasonably be supposed to render them willing to meet a respectable medium under his roof. The *séance* was appointed to be held on the night of the 8th of December, and seven living Spiritualists agreed to be present.

It was the misfortune of Mr. Lathrop to have a peculiarly objectionable boy—Master Thomas Wallis Lathrop, named after his maternal grandfather, and aged 11 years on the 27th of last November. Thomas, or Tom as he was popularly called, was a particularly bad boy. Much familiarity with coffins and funerals had, perhaps, its share in rendering him callous and indifferent to serious things, but it is very certain that he feared nobody and cared for nothing. He made his estimable father's life a burden to him, and it was the general opinion of the village that Tom's private funeral would be a most desirable undertaking event.

The *séance* was held at the time and place appointed, and was in many respects a creditable affair. Communications from a number of prominent ghosts were received, and the spirits of two persons whom Mr. Lathrop had buried, Deacon Smedley and Prince (colored) were fully materialized, and were recognized by every one present. It was in connection with the appearance of the colored ghost that Tom Lathrop made known his hitherto unsuspected presence in the room by a war-whoop and a large apple, the latter being thrown at the ghost with such excellent aim as to hit him on the nose and elicit from him the brief and pointed remark, "Golly!"

The indignation of the assembled Spiritualists was naturally great, and Mr. Lathrop, who promptly captured his graceless son, was about to lead him away for punishment, when the medium said: "Bring him to me; I will deal with him." Tom was accordingly given to the medium, who was an athletic man, and who, seating himself on a chair in the full view of the audience, placed the boy across his knee and prepared to operate on him with the palm of his hand. Mr. Horner struck only one blow, for the instant his avenging hand descended there was a brilliant flash of light, a loud report, and Master Tom disappeared instantly and utterly. The doors and windows were closed, and even if they had not been it is certain that the boy could not have left the medium's lap and escaped from the room unseen. From that moment until the present time not the slightest trace of Master Thomas Wallis Lathrop has been seen.

The medium's explanation was a simple one. He said that by his occult power he had decomposed the boy into his original gases, and that these had united with the gases of the atmosphere. The people of Blackboro, with but one exception, agreed that this was the first evidence of any good in Spiritualism that they had yet seen, and there was talk of inviting Mr. Horner to take charge of the district school. To the astonishment of everybody, Mr. Lathrop seemed dissatisfied, and he has served a formal demand on the medium to reconstruct his boy within ten days or to pay his value, to be decided by three arbitrators or a majority of them.

Now, this is a story which is as wonderful as anything that has ever been told of the East Indian jugglers. It is unquestionably as authentic as any story told by "a recent traveler," and is far more circumstantial in its details than the best efforts of that eminent authority. It will be unhesitatingly believed by all the believers in Indian jugglery, and ought to be of immense service to Spiritualism. In short, there is not a word of truth in it, which is precisely the most important characteristic of the tales of East Indian jugglers, and perhaps accounts for the fact that no one has thought it worth while to hire one of them to exhibit his childish tricks before an intelligent audience.

A writer in a late California journal says that the father of Leland Stanford, the noted millionaire of San Francisco, was almost as much the father of the Erie Canal as DeWitt Clinton himself, to whom all the credit for beginning and completing the great enterprise is generally given. Clinton would, it is alleged, have failed, but for the father of Leland Stanford, who was his moral backbone, and a few strong, far-seeing, self-trustful men of his stamp. The landed interest in Eastern New-York, especially along the Hudson, opposed the canal on the ground that, by opening the West, as the work was intended to do, the price of corn would be reduced. This argument was most potent, as arguments to the pocket always are, and made such a combination of interests against the proposed undertaking that even Clinton faltered, and lost courage before it. Seeing this, Stanford incited and strengthened the Governor, declaring emphatically that the canal could and must be constructed. It is hard for us to understand, to-day, the vast importance of the Erie Canal, begun in July, 1817, and finished in October, 1825. For that time it was a grand enterprise, the most momentous, all things considered, in which the Republic had ever been engaged—an enterprise, indeed, that then had been hardly matched in modern times. To judge it rightly, we must remember that, 60 odd years ago, railways had not been dreamed of, nor any of the number less modern inventions and improvements which have changed the face and form of civilization. In this era of steam and electricity and its familiar wonders, the making of a canal appears insignificant enough; but it was a gigantic work then, and its results were gigantic also. It was a proud and memorable day for science, progress, and humanity when civilization and savagery met on the frontier waters of Niagara, and DeWitt Clinton and Red Jacket embraced. Then the region lying between Buffalo and the Rocky Mountains was mostly an unexplored wilderness, inhabited by Indians. As soon as the construction of the canal had been begun the population of this State commenced to grow by augmentation from adjoining States and from abroad; old towns and cities expanded; new ones rose and multiplied; agriculture, manufactures, and commerce were quickened and diffused; wealth poured in from every side, and prosperity became general. Clinton said that the day when he was borne in a barge over the artificial river, amid the ringing of bells, the roar of cannon, and the acclamations of enthusiastic crowds, was the proudest and happiest day of his life. He afterward began the building of branches of the Erie Canal, by which it was finally connected with the native lakes and with the Susquehanna, Allegheny, and St. Lawrence Rivers. Through his counsel, sought in all directions, he hastened the opening of those canals in New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, which, in conjunction with those of this State and with natural channels, constituted interior water-ways of unequaled extent and consequence. The Erie Canal instituted an epoch of extraordinary internal improvements.

No class of people in this country are so loud in the assertion that the citizens of States can receive full and impartial justice in them without the interference of the national Government as are the politicians of the South. Yet there is not to be found in any part of the Union any representative body of men who pay so little regard to the rights of individuals as do these same Southern politicians. The truth of this statement is well shown by a recent occurrence in Alabama. At the last election Winfield S. Bird, a man of honesty, the best intelligence and education, was a candidate for the position of Probate Judge of Greene County in that State. Regarding that election, he, in due course, sent the following petition to the Senate and Assembly of Alabama:

"The memorial of your petitioner, Winfield S. Bird, respectfully shows that he is a citizen of Greene County, Alabama. That at an election held in said county and State on the 2d of August, 1880, he was a candidate for the office of Judge of Probate of said county. That at said election he was elected to said office by a large majority, but was openly and wickedly counted out and defrauded of his election by the larceny of ballot-boxes and election returns, and by false and fraudulent counting of illegal votes. In support of this assertion he specifies that the election returns of Bolgee Precinct, together with the boxes and votes, (where he had 619 majority,) were stolen. He further specifies that at Mount Hebron Precinct 300 ballots cast for him were illegally excluded from the returns. And at Forkland Precinct, where 618 legal votes were cast for your petitioner, only 340 were counted for him, and the balance (269) were illegally and criminally counted as cast for his opponent. And your petitioner avers that further proofs of fraud at said election are numerous and overwhelming. Your petitioner, jealous of his rights as an American citizen, and having in view the dignity and honor of the great State of Alabama, would therefore pray your honorable bodies to order an investigation of said election, to the end that the rights of all citizens may be established and the laws of our State fully vindicated."

It may be mentioned in connection with the petition that the facts contained in it are notorious. No refutation of them has ever been attempted. The memorial reciting them was introduced with the formal request that a special committee be appointed to investigate them. This was denied, and in mockery of even the pretense of justice the whole matter was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, the Chairman of which, Thomas C. Clark, holds his seat by reason of the very frauds of which complaint is made. This Alabama gentleman now publicly boasts that his committee will refuse to consider the petition, and that no investigation of the facts alleged by Mr. Bird will ever be had. And yet the State of which Mr. Clark claims to be a Representative professes to give exact and equal protection to all its citizens, and in and out of season declares that the national Government has no right in any way to expose the peculiarities—to use no harsher word—which are practiced by men who control the elections there.

In the *Magazine of American History* for December Gen. J. Watts de Peyster presents an important contribution to the critical and military history of the war of the Revolution in a memoir on the battle of King's Mountain, whose centennial was celebrated in August last. According to Gen. de Peyster, the historians have blundered in relation to that decisive affair in a manner so complete and exhaustive that the popular notion of the conflict is a tissue of errors in the major as well as the minor particulars. Translating the epigrammatic statement of a witty Parisian essayist, they have managed with more or less cleverness to deny that which is and demonstrate that which is not. The popular narrative is that the battle was fought between a corps of British regulars commanded by Major Patrick Ferguson—the one-armed devil, as the Whigs of Carolina styled him—and a force of raw backwoodsmen, inferior in number and equipments to their well-trained adversaries, but impelled by a fervid patriotism that was as irresistible as destiny. Ferguson fell, and the British surrendered. It is always a pity to spoil a stirring narrative, particularly when its tendency is elevating; but modern historical criticism has proved a reckless iconoclast, and to the story of William Tell and the tyrant Gessler has been written down a myth, there is no reason why the King's Mountain narrative should not follow its mediæval predecessor. Marshal Ney's dead horses at Waterloo have been shown to be imaginary animals by M. Lanfrey, whose history of Napoleon is to his military what the Rémusat memoirs are to his private life; and it now appears that the last desperate charge of the royal troops at King's Mountain came near driving our people off the field. The charge was led by Abraham de Peyster, senior Captain in the Fourth Regiment of New-York royalists, a beardless young man of 22, upon whose papers, compared with those of others who took part in the fight, the memoir of Gen. de Peyster is founded. This charge was executed some time after Ferguson fell, and the Americans were driven by it down the eastern slope of the hill with a rapidity that nearly amounted to rout. But the gallantry of 70 men could not save the day; one by one they were picked off by the rifles of the Whigs until only 30 remained, and these were crowded into a heap and compelled to surrender. Not a man escaped death or capture. It appears, however, from the memoir of Gen. de Peyster, that there were few, if any, British regulars engaged in the battle. The command of Ferguson consisted almost wholly of picked men from the American volunteer regiments. There were, besides Major Ferguson, one or two British officers present, and possibly a few regular soldiers selected on account of their proficiency as marksmen or sharpshooters. If so, they were merely incorporated with the command, and had no special organization of their own. Having disposed of these two historic misconceptions, Gen. de Peyster discusses the question of the relative numbers of the combatants. The British force did not exceed 950 men, and was probably not more than 800, inclusive of Militia, who began to desert in numbers several days before the battle, and vanished like men of mist when the conflict actually commenced, leaving the 100 picked men to fight it out. The Americans have been variously estimated, and, being mountain men volunteered for the campaign against Ferguson, their numbers probably fluctuated from day to day. De Peyster calculates our reliable forces at 1,370, and the British as from 820 to 950. The whole fighting of this decisive engagement was done within an area less than half that of Madison-square; and with strange want of judgment Ferguson had posted his troops on an open elevated plateau, while his assailants had the shelter of the surrounding woods. To make the matter worse, the plateau was paddle-shaped, (300 to 400 yards long by 60 to 70 broad,) admitting of sheltered assault in front, flank, and rear. It was the blunder of making a stand against the experienced and unerring riflemen trained to long-range rifle-shooting which cost Ferguson his life and turned the scale of the Revolution in our favor by reviving the drooping ardor of our troops after the disaster at Camden. There is something incongruous in the fate of a nation being balanced upon the issue of a trifling skirmish in the backwoods of Carolina, but many historical parallels could be cited.

Alexander Odell, of Coldwater, Mich., is declared to be the oldest pioneer of that State, having been born at Detroit 80 years ago. His first recollections of the latter city are when it was about eighty rods square, being bounded by the fort and the river. Around it was a line of pickets, and every third one had a loop-hole for firing upon any approaching foe. He remembers when Tecumseh and his braves were camped near the town, and that that noted chief was tall and very ugly. When very young, he went to Malden to learn the baker's trade, and, while there, knew the renegade American and drunken villain, Simon Girty, then in the pay of the British Government. Odell was once pressed into the British service, and taken on the "man"-of-war *Queen Charlotte*. He remained in it for more than a year, when he was released by failing into the hands of Admiral Perry at the battle of Lake Erie. Previous to and during that sanguinary engagement, he was second Captain of a 24-pounder, and had many narrow escapes. Perry's force was largely composed of deserters from Barclay's command at Niagara, and they fought desperately, knowing that, if captured, they would be shot. He afterward enlisted in the second rifle regiment, and tried to pay back the British for compelling him to fight against his own countrymen. When the rebellion occurred, he offered his services to the Union, though he was then 79; but they were declined on account of his age. He wanted to do garrison duty at least; but he was not allowed to. Four of his sons were in the Northern Army, and one of them was killed. Odell was married at 24; his wife, aged 80, is still living, and has borne him 13 children, only three of whom are dead. He is very nimble for his years. He can handle an axe and a gun as well as he could a quarter of a century ago. He is a member of the Pioneer Society of Michigan, and is always received there with cordial fervor. His senses are still acute, his memory good; he retains an active interest in affairs; voted for Garfield in November, and expects to vote for several more Presidents. Alexander Odell is evidently a very remarkable veteran.

GENERAL NOTES.

Forefathers' Day was celebrated by suppers and speeches in Minneapolis, Minn., and Des Moines, Iowa, on Wednesday evening last.

A man sentenced to the Nebraska Penitentiary for life for an atrocious and cruel murder has been released on a mere technicality of law.

A rubber belt is being made in Toronto which is to be 5 feet wide, 8 plies in thickness, and 219 feet long. It will weigh over a ton and a half.

It is asserted in St. Louis that the death-rate to firemen by accident is greater in that city than elsewhere, without any greater success in extinguishing fires.

Ex-Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, has written a letter opposing the election of the Hon. R. W. Keyes to the Senate from that State, and favoring ex-Representative C. C. Sawyer.

Mr. Obadiah Dawson, a farmer in Laporte County, Ind., who died last week, had lived 69 days on water alone, being unable to receive any solid foods because of a cancer of the stomach.

The Hon. Isaac Davis, of Worcester, Mass., gave $1,000 as a Christmas present to Richmond College. He had previously sent Dr. Dickinson $150 for the same object, making his donation to the "Jeter Memorial" $1,150.

The will of the late Gov. James D. Williams, of Indiana, has been probated. He divides his property equitably among his legal heirs, consisting of his son John, his widowed daughter, and the children of his deceased son George W. There are no public bequests.

There is talk in Western Missouri of making a new State, to be called West Missouri, out of the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Congressional Districts—61 counties in all. Their total vote for President was 192,143. Of this, Hancock had 93,083. The total vote of the State for President was 397,941. The proposed new State, it is believed, would be Republican in 1884.

The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* says that the rebuilt Southern Hotel in that city has been leased to the Breslin brothers, of this City and Washington, although the papers have not yet been signed, and that they will probably have it ready for guests in April next. The terms are said to be "in the neighborhood of $25,000 a year," this being exclusive of the stores on the street floor.

The Hartford *Times* says that a passenger on the 12:30 train from Springfield on Friday gave the conductor a ticket purchased in October, 1850. He bought it at South Framingham, Mass., for Hartford at that time, but stopping

ARMY TALK IN WASHINGTON

GEN. SHERMAN'S POLICY AND THAT OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

ONE OFFICER ON THE ACTIVE LIST TO EVERY THIRTY PRIVATES—TWENTY-NINE OFFICERS ENTITLED TO RETIREMENT—GEN. HOWARD'S VIEWS ON HIS NEW POST.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—There is much commotion in Army circles over recent changes and retirements. With the younger men, looking for promotion and their "step," the enforced retirement of the older officers is an act of justice. But the retired individuals, and those who are expecting to be placed on the list at an early day, do not look at it in that light. Most of the older officers are stationed here or in other nice places. As they are, as a rule, still able to walk erect, or sit at their office desks a few hours each day, signing papers prepared by clever subordinates, the old gentlemen naturally think themselves cruelly dealt with. Nearly all of them, too, are regulars, and their retirement helps the "mustangs," as the gentlemen who have been transferred from the volunteer service, after years of gallant service, are somewhat insolently designated in Army *argot*. The regular Army influence is a power at the capital. There are a large number of officers on duty here, and a larger number still on the retired list are residents. Besides many families reside here. The General of the Army believes in enlarging the phylacteries of his profession at every available opportunity. There is this difference between Grant and Sherman, and there always was. It is that Grant was first and foremost a citizen, while Sherman, even as a citizen, remained a soldier. Grant has never, voluntarily or otherwise, sought to make the Army a caste or class. Sherman, by instinct, is a partisan, and his actions tend to consolidate Army influence. He is always restless under the control of the Secretary of War, and never fails when opportunity seems to offer to assume the right of the General to command the Army. Grant always recognized, on every occasion, the supremacy of the civil power. Army gossip has not forgotten Gen. Sherman's struggle with Rawlins first and afterward with Belknap to secure acquiescence in his assumption that the General, as such, could issue orders direct to the Army, and need not submit the same for approval to the Secretary of War. But though Sherman was, of course, defeated, some of the innocents ground up between the nether millstone of Secretary and the upper millstone of General still suffer from his anger.

Perhaps the President's recent proposal to supplant Sherman by Grant was not a matter of inadvertence. There are those who regard it as a somewhat deliberate snub on the part of Mr. Hayes—a sort of rubbing out of old scores. It is known that recent changes were and are not favorably regarded by the General. Hazen, in all probability, would not have been his selection for the Signal Service. Certainly Gen. Howard's detail to command at West Point has not met with Sherman's approval. Gen. Howard was ordered here on the President's expressed wish, with the intention of placing him just where he has been finally placed. It was only done after backing and filling several times. Sherman wanted Col. Getty. The President at one time decided on Terry, but finally settled on Howard and Schofield was let down easily. The creation of a new Southern department was against Sherman's advice. The latter sought to bring about the retirement of Gen. Irvin McDowell, so that Schofield could have the command of the Pacific Division. It is quite probable that this may be reserved for the new Major-General to be made when McDowell retires. As the list stands now, that vacancy should be filled by John Pope, senior Brigadier-General. But Howard has been jumped twice, and his friends will probably make the fight. As Pope is unpopular in the Senate at present, expediency may pass him over.

The publication of the correspondence between Gen. Schofield and Major Gardner, Judge-Advocate at the recent Fitz John Porter court of inquiry, will not prove a satisfactory or savory mess for the General. It will show clearly that the latter made up his opinion in advance of and without reviewing the testimony. If a rigid inquiry should be pushed into the subjective history of the court, it may be that other facts will be evolved showing a determination to make a case in advance. Reports have been quietly in circulation for some time past, which, if they have any foundation in fact, would go to prove that prominent politicians and moneyed friends of Gen. Porter in New-Jersey undertook the task of "fixing" in advance the verdict and opinion of the court. It is reported in the same connection that the President-elect is aware of the facts above hinted at. One thing is almost beyond doubt. Unless Gen. Porter is placed on the retired list by the action of President Hayes, he is unlikely ever to secure his rehabilitation. The Fitz John Porter business seems to have been, and to be still, part of a political scheme inside Democratic lines. The leading Army men of that ilk have always had an idea that their party could have been rehabilitated by the nomination of a Union General for the Presidency. Hancock and Schofield were in the movement, the first as a candidate, and the second as a supporter. Schofield has, politically, been born dough. His nomination as Major-General hung fire awhile on that account. He was one of the Army officers whom Andrew Johnson considered safe to approach. Perhaps this quality is shown most distinctly by his report on Cadet Whittaker's case. The hostile report which he drew up and forwarded was by him sought to be withdrawn after the October elections. This fact tells the whole story.

But to return to the composition of the Army, so far as its officers are concerned. The following tables gives the number of regulars, that is, men who are graduates of the Academy; of "mustangs," as the gallant ex-volunteers are called; of "civs," as some term those appointed direct from private life, and of those promoted from the ranks of the Army:

Generals and Staff Corps.	Academy Regulars	Volunteer Regulars	Civilians	Total
General and Lieutenant-General	2			
Major-Generals	2			
Brigadier-Generals	4	2		
Adjutant-General.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Colonels	1		1	
Lieutenant-Colonels	4			
Majors	3	1		1
Inspector-General.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Colonels	2			
Lieutenant-Colonels	2			
Major				1
Judge Advocate-General.				
Brigadier-General				
Majors		1		1
Quartermaster-General.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Colonels	2	1		1
Lieutenant-Colonels	1	1		2
Majors	2	2		3
Captains	4	21	3	8
Military Store-keepers.				
Captains		4	2	6
Commissary-General Subsistence.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Colonels	2			
Lieutenant-Colonels	2			
Majors	2			
Captains	6	6		
Surgeon-General.				
Brigadier-General				1
Colonel				1
Colonels				4
Lieutenant-Colonels				6
Majors			1	40
Captains			20	39
Lieutenants			45	4
Store-keepers.				
Captains				4
Medical Purveyor.				
Colonel			1	
Lieutenant-Colonel			4	
Paymaster-General.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Colonels	3			
Lieutenant-Colonels	3			
Majors	9	14	9	36
Engineer Corps.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Colonels	3			
Lieutenant-Colonels	15			
Majors	21			
Captains	30			
First Lieutenants	25			
Second Lieutenants	9			
Ordnance Corps.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Colonels	2			
Lieutenant-Colonels	2			
Majors	10			
Captains	10			
First Lieutenant				9
Ordnance Store-keepers.				
Captains				10
Signal Service.				
Brigadier-General	1			
Second Lieutenants				2
Post Chaplains.				
Captains			12	14
Total	207	138	74	189

The total number of officers of the field and staff is 668. The following table will show the number of officers of the line and whence appointed:

Field and Line.	Military Academy	Volunteer Army. Regulars who served in the War.	Volunteer Army. Regulars who did not serve in the War.	Civil Life	Total
Cavalry—					
Colonels	7	2	1		10
Lieutenant-Colonels	7	1		2	10
Majors	11	5	2	9	26
Captains	6	30	22	44	117
First Lieutenants	44	16	35	6	4
Second Lieutenants	97	1	6	1	16
Chaplains		2			2
Total cavalry					410
Artillery—					
Colonels	5				5
Lieutenant-Colonels	5				5
Majors	13				13
Captains	36	2	1	3	80
First Lieutenants	35	47	18	19	7
Second Lieutenants	69		2	1	
Total artillery					309
Infantry—					
Colonels	12	7	2		5
Lieutenant-Colonels	17	6	1		
Majors	5	3	4		10
Captains	18	50	69	40	59
First Lieutenants	25	80	145	17	16
Second Lieutenants	139	4	18	10	61
Chaplains					2
Total infantry					779
Captain unassigned	1				
Total	548	257	368	197	214
Aggregate					1,488

NOTE.—Two Colonels were originally appointed from Pennsylvania volunteer regiments that served in the Mexican war.

RECAPITULATION.

Generals.—From Military Academy	9
From volunteer Army	3
Staff.—From Military Academy	288
From volunteers	197
From regular Army, rank and file	14
From civil life	180
Field and Line.—From Military Academy	548
From volunteer Army (commissioned)	257
From volunteer rank and file	368
From regular Army rank and file	197
From civil life	214
Military Academy.—Professors	
Total number of officers	1,988

This is exclusive of the retired list, which, at the close of 1879, numbered 386. The figures of the active service list show that there is 1 officer for about every 30 men. To analyze a little closer it will be found that there are 795 from the Military Academy, against 684 from the volunteers; there are also 248 who served as volunteer privates or non-commissioned officers, against 241 promoted from the regular Army ranks. Those from civil life originally number 307. Of the promotions from the ranks of the regular Army about 200 were promoted during the civil war; the others before the commencement. The larger proportion of the appointments from civil life were made at the beginning and during the rebellion.

In the matter of retirements the following table will prove useful. It shows the number and grade of all officers who are of the legal age and term of service for retirement, and the grade and number of all who have been in the service for over 30 years. The first column of figures shows the date of entry to the service, and the second column of figures shows the number of years each officer served:

	Entered.	Served Years.
Major-General	1839	42
Adjutant-General, B. G	1837	43
Inspector-General, Col	1833	47
Assistant Quartermaster-General, Col	1837	43
Assistant Quartermaster-General, Col	1838	42
Assistant Quartermaster-General, Col	1840	40
Paymaster-General, B. G	1840	40
Surgeons, Col	1834	46
Surgeons, Col	1837	43
Surgeons, Lieut.-Col	1837	43
Surgeons, Lieut.-Col	1839	41
Paymaster-General, B. G	1833	47
Deputy Paymaster-General, Lieut.-Col	1829	51
Deputy Paymaster-General, Lieut.-Col	1835	45
Paymasters, Major	1837	43
Paymasters, Major	1837	43
Engineers, Cols. (2)	1833	47
Engineers, Cols. (3)	1832	48
Engineers, Lieut.-Col	1839	41
Ordnance, Col	1836	44
Ordnance, Col	1839	41
Artillery, Col. (2)	1839	43
Artillery, Col	1838	42
Artillery, Col	1840	40
Artillery, Major	1839	42
Infantry, Col	1837	43

The table shows that there are 29 officers above the retiring age. There are 1 Major-General, 6 Brigadiers, 14 Colonels, 31 Lieutenant-Colonels, and 15 Majors, who have been in the service more than 30 years. It is felt that there would be wisdom, and therefore justice, in the outgoing President asking the responsibility of retiring the 29 officers above indicated, so that President Garfield may escape, as he should, the pressure, socially and personally, which in all Army matters is brought to bear upon the Commander-in-Chief. It is felt that there should be a rigid adherence to the legal terms of retirement in spite of the fact, as in the case of Gen. Meigs, that the officer is physically fit for his duties. But it is held, and justly it would seem, that every man is entitled to his step, all other things being equal, even if he can hold it but a few months. The necessities of war should not govern in too drastic a sense a peace establishment. Efforts are made constantly to override this rule. A notable illustration is seen in the attempt to promote the Medical Purveyor-General to the position of Surgeon-General in the event of Gen. Barnes's retirement. Col. Crane, Assistant Surgeon-General, has been in the service 33 years. Col. Baxter entered in 1861. He is reputed to be a good physician, as he certainly was a valuable Surgeon. But he is fortunate in having had for a father a former United States Senator from Vermont. The office of Medical Purveyor was formerly a detail only to that duty. It was created for Baxter's benefit. Good physician and good fellow as he is considered, there is no reason why he should jump to the head of the medical establishment, unless, indeed, it be found in the reputed adroit use of his position to coddle Congressmen when sick, and perfume and please their wives and families without personal expense to them.

The detail of Gen. Howard has been, as before intimated, the cause of a severe but not public struggle. The General himself was told of what was intended, and sounded as to the policy he should pursue at the Academy, if defiled. Since the announcement has been made, there is no reason for not giving publicity to views expressed by the new commander at the Academy. Gen. Howard believes that the chief difficulty lies in a false theory that is generally entertained in the Army to the effect that there must be no relation beyond that of superior and instructors between the Cadets and those over them. The former are treated essentially as private soldiers, and any other policy has been held prejudicial to discipline. This course, it is said, hardens the lads and makes them self-reliant. One effect of the policy, and its most marked result, has been to make the corps of Cadets maintain their own code of unwritten law and social discipline. Its most severe weapon, and the one used most mercilessly, is that of ostracism. The caste spirit which the control by pro-slavery influences also created and fostered tended to strengthen this. Gen. Howard's belief, and, evidently, that of the Administration also, is that there must be a gradual and temperate abandonment of the policy of separation; that without a surrender of discipline there must be cultivated a closer relation between the officers instructing and commanding and the Cadets collectively and individually. Some changes will be made in the staff and instructors, and then the effort will be made to create a sentiment more in accordance with the age than that which the Whittaker case exhibits. Ostracism is, however, a weapon as old as the Academy. Every one of the score or so of prominent officers who before the war entertained, however moderately, feeling adverse to the domination of slavery, knows what it means. Gen. Howard himself, while a Cadet, was sent to Coventry for nearly two years by his class, of which Custis Lee was the leader. His offense was in recognizing as his social equal his guardian's son, then a Sergeant in the corps of sappers and engineers stationed at West Point, and in being outspoken in his hostility to the extension of slavery.

GOV. PORTER TO BE MARRIED IN THIS CITY

From the Indianapolis Journal, Dec. 25.

The Hon. Albert G. Porter, Governor-elect, will leave next week for the East, and on Wednesday, Jan. 5, will be united in marriage to Miss C. Stone, a lady conspicuous in Washington society, and whose acquaintance the Governor made while the bride-elect was the guest of Judge Scofield's family last Winter. The wedding will be celebrated in New-York City, and the bridal party will return West in time for the inauguration, which is set for the 10th. Miss Stone is a lady of wealth and culture, in every way worthy of the distinguished gentleman of her choice.

NEW RAILROAD IN TEXAS.

GALVESTON, Texas, Dec. 26.—A special to the *News* from San Antonio, Texas, reports that the charter of the San Antonio and Tidewater Railroad has been issued. The road will be narrow gauge, and will run to Aransas Pass.

SOME QUAINT ORDINANCES

CURIOUS FEATURES OF MUNICIPAL LEGISLATION.

THE SCOPE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE ENACTMENTS — DIRECTING BREAD AND BUTTER TO BE SOLD BY WEIGHT — STREET OBSTRUCTIONS AND NUISANCES — ICE AND SNOW.

Few persons, even among those supposed to be well informed concerning Municipal matters, have any idea of the scope and the importance of the enactments of the Common Council known as ordinances. They read, it is true, from time to time how Mr. John Smith has obtained permission to erect a bay window or an awning in front of his shop or residence, or how Mr. Snooks "and his associates" have been given leave to tear up the streets for laying steam or other pipes, or erecting telegraph-wires and the like, especially after the "associates" have done some pipe-laying and some wire-pulling of a metaphorical character with the Aldermen. And it seems to be the general impression that ordinances have simply to do with obstructing the streets, which is, unfortunately, too common a pastime among the so-called City Fathers, and for one instance of which they were indicted two years or so ago. The ordinances, however, have a more important mission, comprising as they do the general legislative enactments of the Common Council, and affecting some very important interests, even down to the selling of bread and butter by weight. That their general purport is not as widely known as it should be is, perhaps, due to two causes. One of these lies in the fact that many of them are never carried into effect, owing to the negligence or lack of means on the part of the City officers, or because no one officer is specially intrusted with the duty of seeing them put in practice, and what is everybody's business is nobody's business in this as in most other matters. A second cause for the general lack of information on the subject arises from the circumstance that the ordinances have been scattered through many volumes of Common Council reports and have been very difficult of access. Besides this, ordinances have been amended and reconstructed from time to time and their effect has been much modified and changed by the successive charter changes and other legislative tinkering with City affairs during the 18 years or more that have elapsed since the last compilation of the ordinances. Commissioners were recently appointed to bring together and codify the existing ordinances, and their report, presented to the Common Council a few days ago, and now in the hands of the Committee on Law Department, forms a rather substantial and formidable-looking code. Some of the features of this work will be referred to below.

Nine chapters, containing nearly 800 sections, are given up to a description of what the Common Council has decreed shall or shall not be done under certain penalties. The first prohibitions relate to the duties of the City officers, beginning with the Mayor and the Common Council, and going through the various departments and bureaus of the local Government. Some of the provisions relating to the government of the markets—which is included in the work of the Finance Department—are worth calling attention to. Thus, it is provided that in case of suspicion regarding the weight or measure of an article sold or offered for sale in any of the 11 public markets, or in "the streets contiguous thereto," it is the duty of the Market Clerk to weigh or measure the article, and if a deficiency is found to exist the seller is to forfeit $10 for each offense. Each butcher is required to "set his own scales, which must be suspended in some conspicuous place in front of or at the side of his stall, under a penalty of $5 for each day's omission so to do. Two butchers having adjoining stalls may, however, use a set of scales in common, provided the same are suspended in a conspicuous position between the stalls—a fact which may console persons who have been hit in the head by the dangling of a pair of scales out into the narrow passageways of a market. All persons are forbidden disposing of butter in a market, except by weight, under penalty of $5 for each offense.

The removal of incumbrances, as would very naturally be supposed, is treated of in some detail. The fact of the matter—as has been repeatedly shown in THE TIMES—the principal difficulty in the subject is that no one branch of the City Government is permitted, alone, to grapple with the nuisance. The Clerks of the markets claim, and very properly, under certain of the ordinances, the right to license and receive pay for permitting all manner of obstructions in and about the markets, and in the streets adjoining. Then the Permit Bureau, of the Mayor's office, puts in its little oar to license other incumbrances. The Police Department sometimes does, and more frequently does not, lend a hand when it comes to clearing the sidewalks or roadways, although officers, as a rule, do little more than add to the confusion attending such action, under the pretense of preserving the public peace. The Chief of the Bureau of Incumbrances—which is part of the Department of Public Works—is supposed to have some kind of special charge of the subject of removing obstructions, but his efforts have usually been mainly mental ones, the incumbent of the office having ordinarily to spend sleepless nights in endeavoring to solve the problem of how to accomplish something without men or money. It is some consolation, perhaps, to know that the enactments on the subject are sufficiently explicit and satisfactory, and that it is only necessary for some one to be given power and authority to carry them into effect.

No person is allowed to obstruct a street without the permission of the Commissioner of Public Works. Permission for a bay-window must in all cases be obtained from the Common Council, according to the ordinances, although it has been very frequently questioned whether the Aldermen have any right whatever to grant this privilege. A penalty of $250 is put on the construction of a porch over a cellar-door, whatever that may signify. No balustrade may be erected except from the second story of a house, and it must not project more than three feet, and the braces and railings must be of iron. Many provisions refer to awnings and similar projections. Among them is one declaring that no portion of any cloth or canvas used as an awning shall be permitted to hang down loosely over the sidewalk, under a penalty of $5 for each day's offense. Another sets forth that every awning and watershed shall have connected with it a gutter or leader "of material and size sufficient for conducting the water from the same to the outer line of the curb-stone, under a penalty of $5 for each day's offense." There are many persons who have had valuable hats or other articles of clothing ruined by the drippings from imperfect awnings, and who are willing to swear that, if this last-named provision had been strictly carried into effect the City Treasury would be the richer by $10,000 or more per year.

In view of the flagrant violations of the ordinance which are permitted from day to day, it is rather a surprise to the average citizen to be informed that there is really a penalty of $5 affixed to the act of hanging or placing any "goods, wares, or merchandise, or any other thing" at a greater distance than 12 inches in front of a building, and that there is also a specific provision decreeing double this penalty in case the object suspended is a sign, show-bill, or show-board. It will cost a man $15 if he plants, or permits to be planted, any tree or shoot in any street having a sidewalk less than 9 feet wide. Where a street is, however, 40 feet wide and upward, no penalty attaches to the act. On the other hand, to destroy or injure a tree or shoot standing in a street or public place subjects the offender to a fine of $50. There is a ridiculous provision which declares that "no person or persons in the City of New-York, whether agent, owner, or employer shall suffer or permit any cask, bale, bundle, box, crate, or any other goods, wares, or merchandise, or any boards, planks, joists, or other timber, or anything whatsoever, to be raised from any street on the outside of any building, by means of any rope, pulley, tackle, or windlass, under the penalty of $25," &c. If this enactment were carried into effect it would put a stop to many building operations, and how persons could manage to have safes lifted into the upper stories of buildings is rather more than a puzzle.

One of the most exasperating experiences is that of being obliged to turn out from the sidewalk to the very muddy roadway because a cart has been backed up to a house, or of being compelled to leave a street-crossing and plunge into the unfathomable slush of the other portion of the roadway because some draymen has taken the precaution to block up the crossing. It must be said, however, that New-Yorkers have themselves alone to blame for submitting to these grievances, since the ordinances afford a remedy, and if a few men will show some public spirit in seeing them carried into effect a surprising and very agreeable change would speedily take place in this respect. Five dollars is the penalty provided in case a person "shall lead, drive, or ride any horse or dray, any wheel or hand barrow" upon any foot-path or sidewalk. A similar penalty is put on the act of leaking a horse, or cart, or carriage on the sidewalk, and the obstruction of crossings is made punishable in the same way.

Among what are classed as miscellaneous ordinances are some which are of general interest. Thus, there is one giving ambulances the right of way and making it a misdemeanor to obstruct them. Then, again, it is provided that bread shall only be sold by avoirdupois weight, under penalties of fines and forfeiture. It is also flattering to national and State pride to observe that only a citizen and a resident of the State can be a public cartman or drayman. The charges of these persons are supposed to be fixed at certain rates per cart-load specified in the ordinances, but the householder, who reads that the legal charge for "household furniture per load of one-horse truck within two miles" is $2, and the charge for a "double-truck load" is $3, and then thinks of what he has been called upon to pay on the 1st of May, will be apt to think that the enactment is worth perhaps less than the paper on which it is printed.

Chimney-sweepers are licensed by the Mayor, "under his hand and seal," after paying $3 and producing satisfactory evidence of their good character. The provisions regarding the employment of youthful apprentices at this kind of work are evidently an outgrowth of the great agitation in England and elsewhere many years ago, when horrible stories were told of the injuries occasioned to very small boys in compelling them to crawl through the narrowest of chimneys. So, there is an ordinance which, while permitting the employment of boys, servants, and apprentices, expressly declares that these shall be "comfortably clad and sufficiently provided with good and wholesome food, and not under 11 years of age." They shall not be required to work "before 6 o'clock in the forenoon nor after 4 o'clock in the afternoon during the Winter season, nor before 5 o'clock in the forenoon nor after 6 o'clock in the afternoon during the residue of the year." A penalty of $5 and the forfeiture of a sweep's license are affixed as the punishment for violating these provisions. Every licensed sweep is made subject to "all penalties that may be incurred by any chimney taking fire within one month after having been swept by them, respectively," or by any person in their employ. The legal charges are: "For every chimney from the uppermost floor of any house, 12½ cents; for every chimney from the next floor below, 15 cents; for every chimney from the next floor below, 18 cents; for every chimney from the next floor below, 21 cents; for every chimney from the next floor below, 28 cents; for every chimney from the next floor below, 37½ cents; and where a Frankiin stove, coal-grate, or jack is used in any fireplace, 12½ cents may be demanded and received in addition to the above-mentioned sum."

As every hackney coach and cab owner is obliged to post up in a conspicuous place in his vehicle the legal charges and other regulations, little need be said here concerning the ordinances affecting this class. The provisions regarding the qualifications of such persons are, however, noteworthy. It is necessary for a person to be a citizen, or at least to have declared his intention to become one. He must have been a resident of the City for six months prior to applying for a license, and must own two good horses if he has a coach, or one good horse if he has simply a cab. There must have been a sympathetic Alderman who was responsible for the passage of an ordinance, which is still in force, giving the Mayor "full power and authority to grant permits to drive to capable young men between the age of 18 and 21 years when it is satisfactorily shown to him that such applicant is the sole or chief support of aged or indigent parents or other relations."

Dealers in second-hand articles and junk-shop keepers are held to a rather strict accountability by the ordinances—much more so than they are in point of fact. Evidence of good character must be given by the applicant for a license. Persons dealing in second-hand articles are prohibited from receiving anything by way of pawn or pledge, or from purchasing at private sale from any one person, in one day, any article or articles exceeding in value the sum of $50." The penalty for a violation of this is $100. A junk shop keeper is not permitted "to buy or sell any coin of any description, or any article of gold or silver, or any article of household furniture, or any implement, tool, or utensil in a sound, unbroken, or undamaged condition." Like the "old clo'" men he must not take anything in pawn. Dealers in second-hand articles and junk men are prohibited from buying anything from a minor, apprentice, or servant, and from purchasing from anybody between the hours of 9 A. M. and 5 P. M. The keeping of dogs, the maintenance of partition fences and walls, the firing of cannon and fire-works, and the sale of hay, &c., are provided for by special enactments. An interesting catalogue is also given of what are declared to be "nuisances," which is chiefly remarkable because 13 of the 18 specifications are constantly violated with impunity.

A glimpse of old New-York is afforded by the provision designating Peck, Burling, and Old slips, Broad-street between Front and South streets, Vesey-street between Church and Washington streets, and the square in front of Greenwich Market as "places at which articles of furniture may be exposed for sale and sold." No auction sales are permitted in the streets except between the hours of 9 A. M. and 5 P. M.

It is especially timely now to call attention to the provisions relating to the removal of snow and ice. According to the ordinances, it is made the duty of the owner or occupant or person having charge of a house or other building, or of lots of ground, to cause, within four hours after every fall of snow or hail or rain, which shall freeze to the sidewalks, the removal of the same from in front of his property, under a penalty of $3 for each offense. If the stuff is so hard that it cannot be removed without injury to the pavement, ashes or sand must be sprinkled over it. The Police Commissioners are required to clear the cross-walks and gutters. Owners or occupants of houses and lots must level the snow so as to "permit the convenient passing of horses, sleighs, and carriages." If the owners or occupants refuse to clean off the snow and ice, the Police Commissioners are required to do it, and they may charge the owners or occupants for the work.

COLLISION ON THE EAST RIVER.

About 7 o'clock last evening, while the storm of wind and snow was at its height, a collision occurred on the East River off the foot of Nineteenth-street, between the Hunter's Point ferry-boat Rockaway and the brig Survivor, of Windsor, Nova Scotia. The ferry-boat was on her down trip from Hunter's Point to her slip at Seventh-street, and the brig was lying at anchor in the stream, about 100 yards from the Nineteenth-street pier. As the tide was at the ebb, the brig had swung around so that she was heading up the stream, and the ferry-boat was lugging in toward shore. The brig had all her lights set, but the snow drifted so thickly through the air that they were invisible beyond a short distance. The ferry-boat had partly cleared the vessel, but her rear cabin came full against the jib-boom of the brig with a tremendous crash. The bowsprit tore away about 20 feet of the side of the ferry-boat's cabin and a part of the hurricane-deck, and the shock started the brig's anchor from the mud. The two vessels, hooked together, began to drift with wind and tide down the river. The steamer Long Beach, which was passing up the river, went to the assistance of the disabled vessels, and pulled them apart, and the brig's anchor took hold again off the foot of Fifteenth-street, where she now lies.

LOSSES BY FIRE.

A dispatch to the Boston *Herald* from Halifax says a fire broke out yesterday afternoon in a large building in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, owned and occupied by Gasper Ernst. This building, with the Liverpool Hotel, owned by S. Foshay, the dwelling of Simon Ernst, Fiendle's livery stables, and several barns and outhouses, were destroyed. A great panic prevailed, as the town had no fire apparatus, but a change of wind prevented the flames from spreading further. Two little children of Gasper Ernst were in an upper floor of his house, and although every effort was made to rescue them, they were burned to death. The loss by the fire is very heavy, and the hotel is the only building insured.

A fire occurred yesterday morning in the wholesale millinery establishment of Bee Herman Brothers, 4c. No. 78 Summit-street, Cincinnati, resulting in a loss on stock and fixtures of $20,000, and on the building of $2,000; insured for $18,000, as follows: Globe, of London and Liverpool, $5,000; Franklin, of Columbus, Ohio, $5,000; North American, of Philadelphia, $5,000; Firemen's, of Dayton, Ohio, $2,000, and Pennsylvania, of Philadelphia, $1,000. The building is owned by Dennis Cogklin. The origin of the fire is not known.

Late on Saturday night a fire of unknown origin did about $2,000 damage to the grocery store of P. V. Wolf, No. 194 Fifth-avenue, Brooklyn, and $1,000 damage to the building, which is owned by Daniel Doody, of No. 203½ Tenth-street. Both losses were covered by insurance.

MR. HARWOOD DISAPPEARS

FEARS OF THE FLIGHT OF THE MINNEAPOLIS BANKRUPT.

LEAVING THE TOWN ON FRIDAY OSTENSIBLY FOR CHICAGO—NO TRACE OF HIM IN THE LATTER CITY—SUSPICION THAT HE HAS GONE TO NEW-ORLEANS AND TENDUE ABROAD.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—A special to the *Tribune* from St. Paul says: "N. B. Harwood, the bankrupt merchant of Minneapolis, has been absent from that city since Friday afternoon, but the fact was only learned last night. His friends say that he has gone to Chicago for rest and to restore his health, affected by the recent excitement, but it is believed by many that he has gone by a circuitous route to join his family in New-Orleans and go with them from there to Europe. It will be remembered that it was charged, when Mrs. Harwood went away, that she secretly took with her a large part of the assets of the broken house.

Mr. C. H. Pettit, the Assignee of Harwood, made the following statement last night: "I first learned of Mr. Harwood's departure from the city this afternoon. I learn that he left on the evening train yesterday. Until this afternoon I had no knowledge of his going, or that he intended leaving the city, and his sudden departure is a perfect surprise to me. I know of no special reason for it, though I have learned to-day that early this week he proposed going away for two weeks for his health, but his attorneys insisted that he must not think of leaving the city now, and I understand that, since the last creditors' meeting in New-York, he has been advised by persons in that City that they believed that things could yet be adjusted upon the basis of his proposition, notwithstanding the action of the creditors at that meeting, and I therefore thought he still had something to fight for. I am told he started for Chicago with the announced intention of returning in a few weeks, but from other information have little doubt his destination is New-Orleans, as he is said to have stated that his wife was suffering from nervous prostration, and his children were also ill. I don't think his absence will materially affect the closing up of his big affairs, except this, that if pressed he might render us valuable assistance, owing to his knowledge of and familiarity with the details of the business." Mr. Pettit had no opinion to give as to the probability of Harwood's return or his going to Europe. He only knew that he had gone, as above stated.

Col. John West, of the Nicollet Hotel, was called upon at 11 o'clock last night, and stated that he had not seen Mr. Harwood since Friday night. He had gone away from the Nicollet, but had not paid his bill, and as far as Col. West knew had no baggage with him. It was the Colonel's impression that Mr. Harwood had only gone to some place for a visit for a day or two, and would be back all right again.

All attempts to get any trace of the Minneapolis dry goods man in Chicago were unavailing. The various hotel registers refused to give anything regarding him, and nobody could be found who had seen or heard of him. If he has left Minneapolis, which would appear to be reasonably clear, a certain St. Louis gentleman, by name of Arendson, will be greatly disappointed on his arrival this morning in that city. The St. Louis man passed through Chicago yesterday, leaving here last evening for the express purpose of meeting Harwood at Minneapolis, presumably on the strength of instructions from the New-York house which he represents, and will probably retrace his footsteps about as soon as he strikes the place, or as soon thereafter as is consistent with the railway time-tables.

If Harwood did come to Chicago with the intention of continuing his journey to New-Orleans, and then setting sail for Europe, it would, of course, be entirely unnecessary and strangely inconsistent with his assumed purpose of clandestinely getting away to stop at any of the hotels, the best ones, or the smaller and less well-known variety. In these days of comfortable and convenient traveling, a man may complete his toilet for the day before leaving his sleeping car in the morning, eat at the restaurants, or when near enough, telegraph and be off again without anybody so much as knowing that he has been around. But, in addition to all this, was it in any way necessary for him to come to Chicago at all, especially since the trip would consume time which it was presumably to his interest to save? As the bankrupt has not been heard from since Friday it is not at all unlikely that he left home that evening direct for St. Louis, availing himself of the cut-off to the west of Chicago, and thus increasing his chances of arrival at his destination before his absence could cause remark. At all events, he has not been seen in Chicago, and, with the possibility, first, of banging around for 12 or 24 hours without being noticed, and, in the second place, of not coming here at all, his failure to appear is not a matter for wonderment.

RUINED BY BAD COMPANY.

A CLERK ROBS HIS EMPLOYERS, DESERTS HIS FAMILY, AND FLEES WITH AN ABANDONED WOMAN.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 26.—To-day the Police authorities of this city arrested a young man, William McCambridge, charged with embezzling over $8,000 from his former employers, Roberts & Co., of Titusville, Penn., who are engaged in the banking business and more particularly known as the manufacturers of the torpedoes employed in sinking oil wells. The particulars of the rascality of the accused man involve a story in which is blended infamy, dishonesty, and the desertion of an interesting little family for a courtesan. Before McCambridge lost his sense of self-respect, he was held in the very highest esteem, and was looked upon as a man of the most exemplary character. The intelligence of his falling from grace burst like a thunder-clap from a clear sky upon his acquaintances. He had been one of the pillars of the Presbyterian Church, a teacher in the Sunday-school, and a shining light among the Good Templars. Three years ago he entered the employ of the firm named, in the capacity of book-keeper for the bank, and by his energy, strict attention to business, and apparent integrity, gained the unlimited confidence of his employers. He had a wife and one child, and his domestic relations were supposed to be of a pleasant character.

From subsequent developments with respect to his integrity, it appears that very soon after he entered the bank he began filching small amounts, and these peculations were continued at intervals until he had taken so large an amount in the aggregate that he became frightened and ran away. From revelations made by a friend to whom he imparted the history of the wrongs perpetrated by him, it is learned that he stole $300 the first week, $300 the second, $400 the third, and in the fifth he pocketed the handsome sum of $500. During this time he had paid frequent visits to notorious house of ill-fame, where he was taken possession of by the proprietress, a woman named Mrs. Louise Sargeant. With her he formed an intimate relationship, but it was maintained in a very quiet manner. It is stated that his custom, after loading the woman down with cash, was to shower five-dollar bank notes on other women in the house. He was regarded as a splendid fellow. At the time he disappeared he had embezzled something like $4,000. He sought refuge in Canada. A few days later he was joined by Mrs. Sargeant, while his wife, crushed and broken in spirit, sought protection with his father. Messrs. Roberts & Co. reposed such great trust in their book-keeper that they signed New-York drafts in blank and left them in his possession, to fill out during their absence. When he fled, he carried off one of these drafts, signed by W. B. Roberts, President of the Bank. After remaining in Canada some time, the guilty couple removed to Buffalo, and were known as Mr. and Mrs. McHenry. Last May the man entered into partnership with one Sturman, and opened a fruit-drying establishment, in Chicago-street, in this city. They built up a fine business, but Sturman says McCambridge swindled the girls employed by them, and failed to make a settlement of the proceeds of the business.

Although aware for some time that their dishonest bookkeeper had taken a residence here, Messrs. Roberts & Co., for some unexplained reason, did not have him arrested. A few days ago the draft which he took with him to Canada, and which had never been missed by the firm, was offered at the bank to be cashed, and this is the fact which led to the arrest of McCambridge. It seems that he filled out the draft for $4,000 on Sept. 26, made payable to the order of H. W. Simmons. The bank on which it was drawn was the Importers and Traders' National Bank of New-York. McCambridge was evidently afraid to present the draft until a few days ago, when he called on a gentleman residing here, who formerly lived in Titusville, and requested him to have it cashed. The gentleman knew the signature to be genuine and was also aware of the surreptitious departure of McCambridge. He took particular notice of the fact that the paper had

NEW PUBLICATIONS

THE JANUARY MAGAZINES.

THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW.

—The Rev. R. W. Dale continues in the *January International* his explanation of the workings of the English system of elementary education with particular reference to the State support of denominational schools. Accustomed as we are to exceedingly simple methods for apportioning State funds among common schools, we can only wonder why the English should employ so cumbrous and complicated a device for distributing the Parliamentary grants. The schools "earn" their grants by the work they do. Average attendance and proficiency of the pupils, as reported by the Inspectors, determine the amount of the Parliamentary rate which any given school shall receive, but in practice it is found that the teacher often contents himself with bringing his school up to the degree of proficiency which will secure the maximum grant, and there he lets it rest, though with a little more effort all the brighter pupils would obtain a much higher grade. The system of school records is so complicated, too, that the teacher is obliged to waste a vast amount of time in mere clerical labor. The act prohibits denominational instruction in board schools, but in every parish where the Church of England people secure a majority of the board they find it easy to evade this prohibition by employing only teachers of their own faith, who have little difficulty in inculcating good Anglican doctrine without actually using either catechism or formulary, and the only resource of Dissenters is to withdraw their children from the schools. In most parishes, therefore, the board schools are distinctly, but covertly, denominational, and the Wesleyans, the Baptists, the Congregationalists, and the Unitarians have to submit to this state of things, for they are individually too weak to support schools of their own and cannot always agree to combine for the establishment of a union school. The moral of it is, as applied to this country, that State aid to denominational schools would break up our school systems. The Chinese find no respectable defender in Prof. Wm. Buren Dealsley, of Chicago, who would encourage the coming of the Celestials instead of legislating against them. The evils of Chinese immigration have been, in his estimation, vastly overrated. He examines with some care all the most trustworthy authorities who have written on the population of the Empire, and shows that instead of amounting to 400,000,000 or 500,000,000 it is probably does not exceed 150,000,000 and that so far from being overcrowded, the country is able to support a much larger population, not more than one acre in six being cultivated, and not more than two-thirds of the tillable land being under cultivation. The "myriads of millions," then, who, according to Senator Blaine, are ready to deluge our country for want of land in their own, shrink to about 100,000,000, who have sent us, in 30 years, 283,000 emigrants, of whom 95,000 have gone back again. If "slightly encouraged," they might in the next 50 years send us 2,000,000, or 3,000,000 if "adequately encouraged." "The influence of Chinese labor upon agriculture," he says, "and of Chinese economics upon mining and manufacturing industries has not yet been felt in this country in the degree in which it would be palpably beneficial. In restoring the sewage of our great cities to the farms instead of polluting the waters of our bays and harbors with it, the Chinese example, practically applied by their own labor, would be of infinite advantage. * * * They are capable of reinforcing our agriculture, and improving it vastly both in its diversity of products and in its economics of management; of stimulating our inland river and lake navigation, and bringing it again into effective competition with our railways, since a large proportion of the Chinese are accustomed to a life in boats and a diet of fish; of supplying our railways with an effective force of boatmen, switch-tenders, track-builders, and machinists; * * * in the Southern States they will supply a class less volatile and more reliable, industrious, skilful, and neat than the blacks, and therefore more acceptable to the white race, and there are reasons to believe that in their hands the culture of the silkworm and the tea plant in the Southern States and in Mexico might be made a grand success." English statesmen cannot find room in the reviews of their own country to express their views upon the condition of Ireland. They are so full of the subject that there is occasionally an overflow into the American periodicals. Leonard Courtney, M. P., examines the question of Home Rule in this number of the *International*, and is led to conclude that, were an Irish Parliament set up in Dublin, the change would produce the most mischievous results upon the condition and prospects of the island. Mr. Walter Chamberlain contributes a second article upon "Australian Bush Life," and Edwin Arnold offers to the American public a version of the seventeenth book of the Mahábhárata—the Iliad of India—hitherto untranslated. An exceedingly well-written and readable article upon portrait painting and Gilbert Stuart is contributed by T. G. Appleton.

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY.

—The third of Herbert Spencer's series of articles on "The Development of Political Institutions" appears in the *Popular Science Monthly* for January. It is devoted to the history of "Political Integration," showing the operation of the influences which work for and against the union of men into co-operative masses. Integration results when like units are submitted to the same force or to like forces, but diversities of race, climate, and environment modify the influence of the uniting force to such an extent that we have every variety of political integration, from the simple co-operation of a few individuals for a given purpose to the most complex confoundings of large communities. Beginning generally with alliances for purposes of war, integration proceeds from the formation of simple groups, through the compounding and recompounding of them up to the highest development, which is not often reached till the original divisions among the united parts have been obliterated. The article teems with historical illustrations, and is clearly reasoned out and instructive. Dr. Felix L. Oswald began this month a series of papers on "Physical Education," with one on "Diet," in which there is an abundance of valuable suggestions. For dyspeptics this number of the *Monthly* is one of uncommon interest, for, besides Dr. Oswald's eight or ten pages of good advice, there is an article by Dr. T. Lauder Bronton on "Indigestion as a Cause of Nervous Depression," reprinted from the *Practitioner*. Among the other articles of note are the translation of a lecture by Dr. Heidenham, of Breslau, upon "Artificial Hypnotism," a sketch of Gen. Myer, with a portrait, and a paper on "Distinctions Between Real and Apparent Death" by Dr. William Fraser.

CATHOLICITY.

FOUR CONFERENCES TOUCHING THE OPERATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. By the Rev. F. C. Ewer, S. T. D. New-York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1880.

These discourses were first delivered at Newark, N. J., and afterward repeated by request in Boston, Philadelphia, and Brooklyn. They are in a measure supplementary to the author's earlier lectures on Catholicity, Romanism, and Protestantism, to which the objection was offered that they made little reference to the functions of the Holy Ghost. And similarly the Church which Dr. Ewer represents is often charged with the error of substituting what Protestants regard as a mechanical or magical use of the sacraments in place of the work of the Holy Spirit Himself. To meet these objections, Dr. Ewer prepared the discourses which compose the present volume, and in them explained the views held in relation to the third divine person by the Catholic party in the Episcopal Church. Because that party have much to say about the sacraments and ministry as being the appointed channels through which the grace of God is communicated to man's souls, Dr. Ewer finds it necessary to apologize for the apparent complexity of the Catholic view of the operations of the Holy Ghost. He claims that simplicity of religion and complexity of theology are not opposed to each other, and that the contrast between the two is an essentially false and superficial one. It cannot be supposed that God's operations in the natural world are more complex, more precise, and need more science for their explanation than His operations in the far more exalted, more delicate, and intricate supernatural world.

Some of Mr. Ewer's critics assume his statement that the Catholic Church is one with its informing head, Christ, and has received from that head the illuminating spirit without measure, by drawing the conclusion that the Church must then be omniscient. To this he replies that as in the Incarnation the human nature of Christ did not become omniscient, but increased in wisdom as well as in stature, so by no means follows, unless we deny the perfect manhood of Christ, that the Catholic Church, or body mystical of Christ, possesses all knowledge because it is in a mystical sense the body of Christ. In considering the Spirit's general work prior to Pentecost among the heathen, and since among those outside the Church, Dr. Ewer maintains that there is no man begotten of Adam, that has not had sufficient grace and aid from the Holy Spirit to turn to God and escape eternal death. It is a misunderstanding to charge Catholics of any kind, Anglican, Greek, or Roman, with holding or teaching that no soul among the ancient heathen and no soul outside the Catholic Church to-day has received or can receive prevenient and co-operative grace. Even the Roman part of the Church, against which this charge is most often made, has, through Alexander VIII. and Clement XI., formally condemned such a statement as heresy. The infinite merits of the Redeemer are before the mercy seat of the Father for the salvation of those that follow the little light which in the order of nature they receive. Dr. Ewer exhibits great liberality of sentiment toward those who differ with him, provided that they do not stumble into the special error of non-Catholicity; which he regards as peculiarly pernicious. He says:

"As centuries passed before, in God's judgment the ripeness of time had come for Him to define through the Church the great fundamentals of the faith; so clearly in His judgment the century has not yet come for it to be necessary for Him to go on further and define the smaller mosties of the faith. Meantime it harms not any of us, in whichever part of the Catholic Church we be, so far as our eternal salvation is concerned, to be left for a while to our varying pious opinions and to the exercise and freedom of mutual discussion about those less important particulars, especially as we are evidently learning the lesson by experience and in a way which, humanly speaking, we could not otherwise learn it, that the great Catholic Church, if it is to battle in the life of the earthly militant, must have the variety of Christian unity without variety, and accept the adult condition of diversity within Catholic unity."

Dr. Ewer describes at length the special work of the Spirit in the soul of the baptized individual. The function of the general operations of the Holy Ghost is to draw the man into the realm of the Church, where not only the human nature of our Lord is in full play, but also the special and stronger influences of the Holy Spirit who fills the Church. The several other sides of the subject are ably and faithfully considered. The volume is a clear and effective presentation of the peculiar doctrines of this school, illustrating them in detail, answering obvious objections, and citing numerous passages from St. Thomas Aquinas and other venerated authorities in corroboration.

ELECTRICITY.

A PHYSICAL TREATISE ON ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM. By J. E. H. Gordon, B. A., Cantab., Assistant Secretary of the British Association. In two volumes. New-York: D. Appleton & Co. 1880.

In the preface to this work the author states that his object in writing it has been "to give a complete account of such portions of electrical science as I am acquainted with, and at the same time to regard them from a physical, as distinguished from a mathematical, point of view." The work is divided into three parts, Electro-statics, Magnetism, and Electro-kinetics. In general, we find the facts of electro-statics accurately and clearly stated, and the phenomena well described. The reader, however, will be somewhat puzzled by the curious explanation, on page 14, relative to quantities of electricity. The author writes: "'Electrification,' or, as we shall now call it, 'electricity,' may be regarded as a quantity. * * * The above does not in any way commit us to the idea that electricity is a substance. There are many other instances of quantities which are not substances." Undoubtedly we may properly speak of quantities of forces, and forces are not substances, but this is a very different thing from regarding a force as a quantity. Electricity is not a quantity, it is a force which may be measured in quantities. In the succeeding chapter a number of different electrometers are described, some of which are very delicate and complicated. Then follows a discussion of the principles of absolute measurement, and a description of the instruments employed in making measurements of this kind. The Leyden jar is then described, and the so-called residual charge is clearly explained upon the supposition, which is well borne out by several experimental demonstrations, that the glass in the jar is placed in a condition of strain by the original charge, from which it does not instantly recover when the first discharge takes place.

The subject of specific inductive capacity is treated at considerable length, as it well deserved to be; the experiments of Cavendish, Faraday, Boltzmann, and others who have been engaged in this department of study, including the author, are recounted; in fact, a very complete summary of our knowledge of this subject is given. In the third part of this work, considerable information about voltaic electricity and electro-magnetism is given in a very concise and convenient form for reference. The telephone and the microphone are described, also the admirable induction-balance recently devised by Prof. Hughes, and in the chapter devoted to the British Association unit of resistance, the apparatus employed in determining the unit is carefully described with numerous illustrations. About the year 1873 Prof. W. G. Adams conducted a series of very interesting experiments upon equipotential lines, and succeeded in tracing the curves in conductors through which electric currents passed. The principle upon which these results were founded is simply that if the electrodes of a galvanometer be applied to a conducting surface, any difference of potential between the two points of contact will be indicated by a current through the wires. The lines of flow, as indicated both by theory and by experiment, cross the equipotential curves at right angles. The investigations of Prof. Adams are given with considerable detail. The largest induction coil ever constructed is described in this part. It was made by Mr. Apps, and weighs 1,500 pounds; it is 4 feet long, 20 inches in diameter, and the wire of the secondary coil is not less than 260 miles in length. With a battery of 80 Grove cells, it gives a spark 49¾ inches in length.

It is with some surprise that we find so little space given to magneto-electric machines, and to the electric light. The former are disposed of in less than six pages, briefly indicating the principles upon which they are constructed, and the latter only occupies about two pages, where we find an illustration of the ordinary arc-light, and one of the Jablochkoff candles. The light produced by the incandescence of carbon or other materials is not even mentioned.

The fourth and last portion of the work treats of electro-optics, and in this the present state of knowledge is well shown. Faraday's and Verdet's experiments are fully described, and Maxwell's theory of the action of magnetic forces upon the molecules to produce rotation of polarized light is quoted. The last chapter explains, but rather too briefly we think, Clerk Maxwell's theory that light is an electro-magnetic disturbance of the hypothetical æther which is supposed to pervade space. This theory is slowly gaining adherents among physicists, although it cannot yet be said to occupy a prominent place in their speculations.

The book is a valuable contribution to the knowledge of electrical phenomena. The explanations are all intelligible to an ordinary reader, and the illustrations, most of which are new, are well selected. We can best characterize the work as an experimental treatise, for each subject is made clear by the description of experiments that have been made, and by illustrations of the apparatus employed. It is written by an Englishman, and for this reason we are not surprised that only in a single instance have we found the slightest reference to the work of an American electrician, and then the name occurs only once, when the "Bell Telephone" is described. The Hughes microphone is described, but Edison is entirely ignored; the experiments of Adams and Day in 1876 upon the conductivity of selenium are said to embrace all that is known on the subject, but surely some of Mr. Graham Bell's far more searching investigations have been known long enough to deserve recognition in this work.

OUR NAVY.

THE STORY OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY. For Boys. By Benson J. Lossing, LL. D. Illustrated. New-York: Harper & Brothers.

Mr. Lossing's name is already familiar to the public as one of the few writers who have treated the early history of our country in a graphic and picturesque style. His "Field Book of the Revolution" still retains its popularity as one of the most interesting accounts that we have of that great struggle. The present volume is intended for juvenile readers, and was written, as the author tells us in his preface, at the suggestion of Capt. S. B. Lees, commander of the training ship Minnesota. So desirous was Mr. Lossing of having his work correct in every particular, that, on the completion of the manuscript, he submitted it to the judgment of officers representing the Navy Department. It was returned to him by Commodore Earl English, with a pleasant note in which the chief of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruits congratulated the author on having produced so beautiful and instructive a record of naval service and its heroes, and one "which will contribute so much to the pleasure and instruction of the youth of our Navy." The proof-sheets, as they were ready, were submitted to Lieut.-Commander B. P. Lamberton, who assumed the task of correcting such errors in the use of nautical terms as might have been made by one unfamiliar with the vernacular of the sea. In this way Mr. Lossing has secured himself against inaccuracy of expression and against the criticism of embryo seamen, whose enjoyment of his book would doubtless be considerably marred if their youthful wits could detect in its pages the ignorance of a landsman.

Before beginning the story of the Navy Mr. Lossing gives his young readers a stirring little account of the manner in which the United States of America came into existence. It is comprised within five pages, and paints the whole subject with a few spirited dashes that serve to recall the main incidents of our severance from English rule, and to tell how revolt against our British masters naturally left us without a single naval vessel. The conduct of plucky little Rhode Island affords Mr. Lossing a capital starting-point for his tale. History goes not furnish anywhere a better groundwork for a thrilling story than is given by Capt. Abraham Whipple's attack upon the Gaspee, Sir James Wallace's furious dispatch, the famous reply of "Always catch a man before you hang him," and the brave support afforded Whipple by the Legislature of his native State. But for Abraham Whipple and the spirited fitting up of a twin armed vessels in this little corner of New-England there is no knowing how long the Continental Congress, with its new and unfamiliar machinery, might have delayed the matter of laying the foundation of a proper naval force.

Mr. Lossing carries his "Story" rapidly along from one striking incident to another all through the period of the Revolution. The naval heroes of that conflict, Paul Jones, Barry, Talbot, and Joshua Barney, have been gifted with deeds depicted in a glowing strain. The close of the war brings him into tamer times, but even here he contrives to keep up the interest. Congressional discussions over the establishment of a navy suitable for a new nation very much at loss to understand what its needs and resources are cannot be made very exciting, but now and then there is a struggle like that between the Constellation and the French frigates Insurgente and La Vengeance to enliven the tale. The war with the Barbary States brings the boyish reader into contact with a strange race of people, and that of 1812 shows them how well our war vessels were able to contend with those of the greatest naval nation of the earth. It also furnishes Mr. Lossing other list of names such as Capt. Lawrence and others, whose gallant acts have made them world renowned. Mr. Lossing gives several chapters to the part taken by the Navy in the war for the Union. This time Farragut is the hero. It is the position held by him among the shrouds of the Hartford during the famous entrance into Mobile Bay that furnishes the subject for the frontispiece. The book closes with an admirable account of the different systems of training employed in naval academies of England and America. After this there is an appendix giving a collection of some of the best poems written upon naval themes from the days when Philip Freneau produced his dull rhymes down to the present time.

One of the best features of Mr. Lossing's volume is its profuse illustrations. They are better than those that generally appear in a volume of the size, and are correct representations of the persons and scenes with which history has made us familiar. There is no question that the book will be well received by the boys, to whom the author addresses it. They form a class of readers who never tire of hearing about the sea and the gallant exploits performed upon its surface.

LITERARY NOTES.

—By order of the Sultan, Arabic newspapers are to be started at Mecca, Bagdad, and Aleppo.

—Prof. Huxley is preparing a volume on "Berkeley" for Mr. John Morley's "English Men of Letters."

—Prof. Helmholtz has been selected to give the Faraday lecture for 1881. It will be delivered in April.

—It is now said that Lord Beaconsfield's "Endymion" was begun 10 years ago, and that he will eventually receive £10,000 for it.

—Mr. Joseph Thomson, besides his papers in *Good Words* on his African travels, has undertaken to write a book on the subject.

—The reception of the well-known novelist, M. Maxime du Camp, by the Académie Française, is named for the 23d of this month.

—The most important work of the late M. Etienne Mulsant, Librarian of the City of Lyons, was his "Coleoptera of France," which occupied 40 years in its publication.

—Mr. Watford has retired from the editorship of the *Antiquary*, which will hereafter be conducted by two Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, to start a new antiquarian magazine.

—A. K. H. B. is to contribute a series of essays on characteristic subjects to *Life and Work* for 1881, a monthly illustrated magazine published under the supervision of a committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

—M. Ménard, a well-known scholar of Touraine, has discovered three hitherto unpublished manuscripts of Rousseau. The two first are translations from the Persian and from Juvenal, with grammatical and historical notes; the other is a continuation of the "Elévations sur les Mystères."

—While the regret for the death of George Eliot is universal, it is something on her side of the harvest that she lived to see a cabinet edition of her works in 20 volumes, and an *édition de luxe* of "Romola," illustrated by Sir Frederick Leighton, whose designs are in as close accord with the ideas of the novel as Cruikshank's cuts are with the text of "Oliver Twist."

—Mr. Frederick Martin, editor of the "Statesman's Year-book," has a biography of Thomas Carlyle ready for publication at almost any moment. He was at one time Carlyle's amanuensis, and began to publish his biography a year or two ago by installments, but was requested to wait till the time was more seasonable, which he did. Mr. Carlyle is reported to be in such weak health that he is confined to his bedroom.

—Mr. Lawrence Oliphant's new book, "The Land of Gilead," is written with the purpose of unfolding the possibility of decentralizing the Turkish power at Constantinople, and colonizing one of the rich and unoccupied districts in Turkey with Jews, to whom the Ottoman authorities can have no possible objection on political grounds. His visit, which has led to the composition of this book, was undertaken to inquire into the possibility of such an experiment, if it has not yet resulted in the colonization of the Palestine valley, the book itself will go far to interest the public in what has for ages been almost a forsaken land. It is remarkably rich in what one wants to know about the Holy Land, both its past and its present.

—It was the remark of Sir Henry Taylor that Coleridge's life had never been adequately written; it is the remark of the latest editor of the "Poetical and Dramatic Works of Samuel Taylor Coleridge" that his "Prose Writings" have never been adequately edited. His numerous letters have never been brought together, and his "Marginalia," which are numerous and valuable, are scattered over a large number of books jealously kept by those who own them. But it can now be said that his life has been properly written by the new and anonymous editor of his poems, and that the poems themselves for the first time have been adequately edited. This edition, published in four volumes by Macmillan & Co., brings all Coleridge's poems together in the order in which they appeared, with prefaces, notes, and everything which pertains to them properly arranged. The edition is based upon Coleridge's latest edition of 1834, with many additional pieces now first included and with a collection of various readings. It is something to have the whole of the Highgate philosopher in poetry, and to have him in such an exquisite form, with reference to time, order, and handiness, as these volumes furnish; booklovers will wish no other edition; but no one will be satisfied now until this editor gives us the whole of Coleridge as he exists in prose.

—Dr. Charteris, Professor of Biblical Criticism and Biblical Antiquities in the University of Edinburgh, has written a much more valuable book than is indicated by its title, "Canonicity." It is a collection of early testimonies to the canonical books of the New Testament, based on Kirchhofer's "Quellensammlung," but importing into it a large amount of new material which brings the work up to the state of criticism in our own day. Dr. Charteris, in acknowledging his indebtedness to German scholars, says frankly: "My admiration for Lardner (on whom Kirchhofer almost absolutely relied) has been increased with increasing knowledge of parts of the wide field over which his splendid labors extended. There is even now no book, on the whole, so indispensable as his." His own work is a mine of learning, and will find a place at once in the libraries of our leading Biblical scholars. It traverses ground over which Canon Westcott, Dr. Sanday, Bishop Lightfoot, and the author of "Supernatural Religion" have already gone, and says the advance word of criticism on the whole subject of New Testament canonicity.

—The story of the way in which the States of Europe have gained the form and character which they possess at the present moment, beginning with the outbreak of the revolutionary war in 1792, and setting in motion forces which have in our own day produced a united Germany and a united Italy, has been told in piecemeal and in interminable histories, but has never been told so that the significant facts stand out in their real connection with one another within a limited number of pages. Mr. C. A. Fyffe, an Oxford scholar and London barrister, has ventured upon the task with a certain amount of success, and his first volume—covering the period from the outbreak of the revolutionary war in 1792 to the accession of Louis XVIII. in 1814—has already been published by Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co. Two volumes are to follow, the second bringing the reader down to the year 1848, the third coming down to the present time. The volumes chiefly cover political complications, and no other work generally accessible explains equally well the origins of the European States as they exist now. If Mr. Fyffe completes his work as he has begun it, it will be our most important hand-book to European history for the present century.

—A student of literature who signs himself "Q. P. Index," Bangor, Maine, and is understood to be a graduate of Harvard of the Class of '76, is giving evidence of fitness to be the coming American bibliographer in a kind of work which greatly interests all who read or write, that of making our periodicals accessible for working purposes. He has undertaken to prepare topical and authorship indexes of the chief American periodicals, and has already done this for the *International Review*, the *Nation*, and the *Atlantic* to date, with very great accuracy. He is at present engaged in printing a general index to *Lippincott's*, and has in preparation a complete index to *Scribner's* magazines; but the volume which will be of most value to literary workers is still in manuscript, and awaits a sufficient number of subscribers ($3 each) to defray the cost of printing before its publication will be ventured. This is an index to articles on history, biography, travel, philosophy, literature, and politics contained in collections of essays. The value of this work is indicated by the fact that it includes the best English, French, and German essayists—Carlyle, De Quincey, Lowell, Parton, Freeman, Huxley, Mill, Schmidt, Hillebrand, von Sybel, Ste.-Beuve, Scherer, Taine, and others, and such collections as the Cobden Club Essays, Oxford and Cambridge Essays, Social Science Reports, and similar collections in French and German. Such a monograph will save many a day's still-hunt in the large libraries for those who deal with living subjects, and is of the highest utility in making magazine and essay literature serviceable.

—Dr. Edward von Hartmann, the author of "The Philosophy of the Unconscious," will contribute to the January number of *Modern Thought* the first of a series of articles on "Religious Development in India." In the November number of the same periodical Mr. W. C. Coupland prints a biographical sketch of the chief pessimistic philosopher of Germany. Hartmann is even now only in his thirty-ninth year. After a few years at school he entered the Prussian Army, where his father held the rank of a Captain of artillery. His great work, "The Philosophy of the Unconscious," was begun in 1864, and written solely to clear up his own ideas and doubts. A Berlin publisher persuaded him to give it to the public, and the work appeared in 1869. It had reached its eighth edition in 1878. Mr. Coupland thinks his success is largely due to the fact that "he appeared in the fullness of time." His second work appeared early in 1879. It bears the title, "Phenomenology of the Moral Consciousness," and is intended as prolegomena to all future ethics. Hartmann, like Schopenhauer, is an anti-professional philosopher. He says he only once attended a university lecture, and he never wished to repeat the experiment. He approves the saying of the shrewd Lichtenberg: "Much reading is injurious to thought. The greatest thinkers with whom I have come in contact have been those who have read the least." Two influences, according to Mr. Coupland, have chiefly contributed to the success of his work—the growing interest in the writings of Schopenhauer and the increasing conviction that the psychology of consciousness is insufficient to explain the intricate phenomena of spiritual life in the individual or in society. He is an aristocrat in feeling, a universalist in creed. None of his writings are yet translated into English except a fragment on Darwin, which appeared in the *Journal of Speculative Philosophy* some three years ago. The fact that the pessimistical philosophy of Germany have given him the cold shoulder has been favorable to his fame. The last account in English of Hartmann's philosophy is found in Mr. Sully's "Pessimism," published in 1877.

LETTERS FROM MR. JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The following letters from Mr. John G. Whittier have been received in Richmond, Ind., in answer to notes saying that the students there would celebrate Mr. Whittier's birthday. The first letter was addressed to President Moore, of Earlham College, and the second to Prof. Strausburgh, of the public schools. Earlham is a Quaker school, and the allusion to "the society I love" refers to the Society of Friends:

DANVERS, 5th, Eleventh Month, 1880.

MY DEAR FRIEND: With the natural gratification which I feel in knowing that the young members of the society which I love, who are preparing at Earlham for life's duties and responsibilities, are to make myself and my writings the occasion of a birthday celebration, is mingled, I must confess, with a good deal of humiliating self-distrust. I wish in all sincerity that the young men had a better subject for study and discussion, but I hope that will at least find that I have tried to make the world a little better; that I have not excused its evils or overlooked its good. If any word of mine for freedom, humanity, purity, and love to man and to our Heavenly Father shall be blest to our young readers and confirm their faith and strengthen their hands to do the work before them, I shall have abundant reason for thankfulness.

With all good wishes for Earlham and thyself, I am, truly, thy sincere friend,

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

OAK KNOLL, DANVERS, Twelfth Month, 15th, 1880.

DEAR FRIEND: I have just received thy kind note and have only time before the mail closes to say that I fully appreciate the honor of the proposed celebration, and that I hope no moral or intellectual detriment may result from the study of my writings, and that something may be found in them to awaken a love of freedom, justice, peace, and good-will—something which will suggest, however, faintly and imperfectly, the Christian ideal of love to God and humanity. Thy friend,

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

RUM FOR PAUPERS.

From the London Globe.

Every one should wish a merry Christmas to the sick and infirm in Leeds Work-house. They will need some such encouragement, or they may be apt to lose faith in the jollity of "the festive season." Up to the present time it has been the custom of the Guardians to sanction the issue of a small quantity of rum, not to be "drunk on the premises," but to improve the sauce of the plum pudding. At the present moment there are 420 inmates, and it was accordingly proposed to issue four gallons of rum for their behoof. But at the last meeting of the board an indignant Guardian asked, "whether this was the proper time to be giving four gallons of rum to sick people?" and as the majority of his colleagues decided in the negative, the issue will not take place. Another philanthropist objected to the paupers receiving coffee with their roast beef and plum pudding on Christmas Day, and wound up with the unpleasant prediction that "a lot of our old people will be choked." Why so? Is there anything in the pauper throat which prevents the passage of weak coffee, while freely admitting "skilligolee?" Perhaps this may be a peculiarity among the Leeds poor. It may also be that less than a hundredth part of a gallon of rum in a ladleful of sauce would make the sick and infirm too merry. We prefer to believe that the two Guardians who suggests such an unamiable light were solely actuated by kindly feeling for poor old creatures who, cosy with rum in their sauce, and a cup of coffee to drink, would not be likely to pass a too festive Christmas.

GENERAL TELEGRAPH NEWS

THE DELAYS AT THE JUNCTION.

THE EXAMINER SATISFIED AS TO THE INTENTIONAL OBSTRUCTIONS TO THE NEW LINE'S TRAINS.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—The Examiner appointed by the United States court to investigate matters on the Junction road, and whose experiences on Friday was telegraphed to THE TIMES that night, has well satisfied himself, he declares, of the intentional disregard of the mandates of the court. He will leave this city to-night. His report and other evidence will be laid before Judge McKennan next month when the case comes up for consideration, and will result, there is hardly a doubt in the mile of track upon which all the trouble has been caused being taken completely from the possession of the Pennsylvania Road. This will be the only way that the trouble can be stopped, for just so long as the Pennsylvania's engines are attached to the trains of the new line to take them over this mile of track, the delay will be great. The Junction road entire thus placed in the hands of such a management as will implicitly follow out the mandates of the court will probably cause the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad to discriminate less against the trains of the new line. The Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore's bitterness toward the Bound Brook route is equaled only by that of the Pennsylvania Road, and it has invariably refused to do any business whatever with it, and as far as it is in power has deserved the Bound Brook route of any intercourse whatever with roads west of this city. Day before yesterday the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore ran on a side track of the Baltimore and Ohio Limited express and held it 17 minutes in order to let the Pennsylvania limited go by. Had the Baltimore and Ohio limited reached the Junction road ahead of the other train it could not have been subjected to the two and a half hours' delay on the Pennsylvania's track, as it would have had to a more or less delay of the Pennsylvania limited.

There is no question that the necessity for actual competition will compel the building of a new line between this city and Baltimore. The Baltimore and Ohio has a charter from Baltimore to a connection with the Reading Road at Chester, and this line could be built with only 36 miles of track. The Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore, by its course in refusing to deliver Baltimore and Ohio freight to the Bound Brook route, and which action led to the establishing of the steamer route from Baltimore to New-York for freight, has lost the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore more business than it gets from the Pennsylvania, and with a new line for passengers, as well as freight, the new road would find just what its so-called neutrality has led to. Last night's trains to and from New-York were not so much delayed as heretofore, owing to the fact that most of the Pennsylvania employes were celebrating Christmas.

A COMPLICATED ROBBERY CASE.

CLEVELAND POLICE DISCREDIT THE STORY—A MAN CLAIMS TO BE THE CULPRIT.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 26.—A few weeks ago one of the wealthiest lumber merchants of this city, John Woods, was found badly bruised in Euclid-avenue, near his home. When he had recovered sufficiently he said that he had been suddenly assaulted by some unknown assailant and robbed. The Police made an investigation, and out of that investigation a great official and newspaper row has arisen. The Police claim that Mr. Woods was not robbed, and that there is something mysterious about the affair. Mr. Woods and his friends have been very indignant over these statements, and the matter has been carried into public print, thus adding a new complication arises. A young furniture polisher named Joseph Fitzsimmons, gave himself up to the Police as the assailant, and told a very well concocted story about the affair. A new journal to-day presents itself as whether Fitzsimmons tells a true story or is after notoriety, or is a little off in mind.

THE SCOTT-DRURY SHOOTING.

TOLEDO, Ohio, Dec. 26.—Gen. R. K. Scott, who shot and killed W. G. Drury at Napoleon, Ohio, yesterday morning, was last night taken to Defiance for safe keeping in consequence of the excitement and strength of feeling against him at the former place. The preliminary examination will take place to-morrow morning. The evidence thus far indicates that the deed was committed in a fit of anger, caused by the refusal of Drury to admit Scott to a room over the drug store in which Drury had taken Scott's son, whom he had found upon the street in an intoxicated condition.

LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE EXPRESS.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 26.—For several months negotiations have been pending between representatives of the Adams and Southern Express Companies, and the managers of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, looking to a settlement of the difficulties which have existed between them. The basis of an agreement has been reached and it is thought contracts will be signed, and before the week closes the entire business on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad will be taken from the Adams and Southern Express Companies, and the entire express machinery of the railroad company withdrawn.

KILLING HIS BROTHER.

UTICA, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Henry Ostrander, 29 years old, shot and killed his brother, George Layman Ostrander, 26 years old, at their home near Camden, in this county, to-day. Henry was jealous because his little sister was caressing his brother, and he spat tobacco-juice in her face. George warned him to stop, when Henry shot him through the eye, killing him instantly. The murderer, who was arrested, says George had his pistol half cocked, but he was too quick for him. He charges that George was trying to run the whole family. Both men were laborers.

SLEIGH STRUCK BY A TRAIN.

LUGAN, Ontario, Dec. 26.—While a party of six persons was returning late on Christmas night from visiting friends in the township of McGillivray, their horses bolted when approaching the railway track and the sleigh was struck by a train on the London, Huron and Bruce Railway near Clandeboyne Station. James Mcrash, Alice Mcrash, Mrs. Mcrash, and Miss Ellen Blake, a cousin, were instantly killed. McGrath's child, 13 months old, was dangerously hurt, but may recover. The sixth person, Annie McGrath, saved herself by jumping.

A COMING RAILWAY CONTEST.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—A special dispatch to the *Journal* from Concord, N. H., says there is the strongest probability that there will soon be begun in that State one of the most important railway contests that ever occurred in New-England. It will involve the old time issue of connecting lines of road from Chicago to Boston by way of the Central Vermont. The latter road is backed by the Grand Trunk Railway, and the principal opponents of the scheme are the Connecticut River Valley Road and the Northern Railroad of New-Hampshire.

KNOCKING DOWN A BUFFALO.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—A Special to the *Inter-Ocean* from Milwaukee says: A saloon-keeper, named Seward, struck a rowdy named Jim O'Donnell, with a keg mallet this morning, and fatally wounded him. Seward claims O'Donnell grossly insulted his wife.

A YALE PROFESSOR DEAD.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 26.—Dr. David P. Smith, of Springfield, Professor in the Yale Medical School, and the most eminent physician and surgeon in the Connecticut Valley, died in this city to-night at the age of 59 years.

A PROMINENT MINISTER DEAD.

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 26.—The Rev. Samuel Bookwell, long a prominent Congregational clergyman of this State, died at his home in New-Britain last night, at the age of 78. He has been a member of both Houses of the Legislature. He retired from active ministerial labor some years ago.

DAMAGE TO SHIPPING.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 26.—The British bark Clifton, Capt. Pavey, from Liverpool for Charleston, has arrived here leaky.

ENFORCING THE SUNDAY LAWS.

An attempt on the part of the managers of the Thalia Theatre to evade the law which prohibits dramatic performances on Sunday was frustrated last night by the Police, who were under the immediate orders of Inspector Murray and Capt. Kealy, of the Fourteenth Precinct. The posters and advertisements announced under the heading "Sacred Concert," with H. Greiner, *Kapellmeister*, that three pieces, two comedies and a farce, namely, "Becker's Geschichte," "Dir Wie Mir," or "The Gentleman with the Glass of Water," and "Madame Flott" would be played. Inspector Murray, anticipating a violation of law, detailed Roundsman Cowell, Detectives Brennan and Moran, and Officers Praehler and Theoden to watch the entertainment, and they were instructed to thwart any attempt to evade the law. After Miss Henriette Markstein had played "L'Invitation à la Valse," "Becker's History" was begun. Officers Praehler and Theden told the other policeman that a German comedy was playing, and the management of the theatre was appealed to. The play was immediately stopped, and the audience, a large one, escorted the entertainers of a sacred concert for comedy and farce. There was no confusion or excitement in the theatre.

FRENCH SOCIETY.

THE INTOLERABLE DULLNESS OF FORMAL EVENING GATHERINGS—THE VAPID TALK OF THE WOMEN.

From London Truth.

That genius for sparkling conversation which distinguished the ladies of the eighteenth century has died out among their fair descendants. In most drawing-rooms ladies and gentlemen have ceased to converse with each other. The former go to considerable expense for evening toilets, in the display of which they alone find pleasure at the soirées they attend. At these tedious assemblies they sit in a semi-circle round the mistress of the house, and keep silence when they do not fall in with persons of their own sex with whom they are already acquainted. Their chief chat, if the occasion arises for them to talk, is carried on in a low tone, and is vapid and conventional. They deal in a cold sort of gush about trifles that had best be treated as trifles in a touch-and-go manner. The words "ravissante," "charmante," "exquise," "adorable," "magnifique," "poétique," are momentarily brought into play and applied indifferently to Sarah Bernhardt, Croisette's parure of diamonds, a lap dog, a bit of old lace, an artificial flower, a piece of embroidery, or an operatic ballet. Any human being whose brain is in a wholesome state would have a surfeit of these superlatives in a few moments. No hospitable feeling animates the hostess. She forgets that if people minister at their inconvenience and expense to her vanity by attending her soirées, it is her business to make them pass the evening pleasantly. As each lady guest walks up to her, she greets her with a pretty little complimentary speech, which from constant use is worn threadbare, gently presses the tips of her fingers, and, with a graceful inclination, sends her to a chair at one of the extremities of the semi-circle, where she plants her for the rest of the evening. A bright array of toilets, if not of beauty, is disposed in a wide crescent, which face toward gentlemen congregated in groups, and talking to each other. These needs stand or sit behind their mothers, and do not open their lips at all unless they fall in with school friends belonging to their own set. In pursuance of a social fiction, it is taken for granted that young men are acquainted with every one in the *monde* in which you appear. This works agreeably enough in the Faubourg St. Germain, where all have the same King, creed, political passions, prejudices, rococo tastes, and do really know each other. In the modern variegated salon, the fiction, however, conduces to dullness and enn

SHIPPING.

GUION LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.
FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
Leaving Pier No. 49 N. R., foot of Canal-st.
WISCONSIN.....TUESDAY, Dec. 28, 7:30 P. M.
NEVADA.....TUESDAY, Jan. 4, 11 A. M.
ARIZONA.....WEDNESDAY, Jan. 12, 4 A. M.
WYOMING.....TUESDAY, Jan. 18, 7 A. M.
ARIZONA.....TUESDAY, Jan. 25, 1 P. M.
These steamers are built of iron, in water-tight compartments, are lighted throughout with electricity, and are provided with every requisite to make the passage across the Atlantic both safe and agreeable, having both cabin and steerage passengers, but no second cabin. Neither cattle, sheep, or pigs are carried. Steerage passengers are treated with the same liberality and attention, and enjoy as much room as the cabin passengers. The saloons are all upper deck, thus insuring them great light, and all fitted up in the most elegant and comfortable manner. The state-rooms are all upper deck, thus insuring them great light, and all fitted up in the most elegant and comfortable manner. The state-rooms are all amidships, where the motion of the vessel is scarcely perceptible. Every attention will be paid to the wants of all classes of cabin passengers. Surgeons are carried on all steamers. The saloons are all upper deck, thus insuring them great light, and all fitted up in the most elegant and comfortable manner. The state-rooms are all amidships, where the motion of the vessel is scarcely perceptible. Every attention will be paid to the wants of all classes of cabin passengers. Surgeons are carried on all steamers.
RATES—Cabin passage (according to state-room), $80, $90, $100; intermediate, $60; steerage, $30. For passage apply at the Company's offices, No. 29 BROADWAY, New-York.
WILLIAMS & GUION.

WHITE STAR LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS
FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
NOTICE.—The steamers of this line take the Lake Route recommended by Lieut. Maury, U. S. N., on both the outward and homeward passage.
BRITANNIC, Capt. Peaty.....Saturday, Jan. 1, 2 P. M.
BALTIC, Capt. Parsell.....Thursday, Jan. 6, 10 A. M.
GERMANIC, Capt. Kennedy.....Saturday, Jan. 8, 3 P. M.
REPUBLIC, Capt. Irving.....Thursday, Jan. 20, 8 A. M.
From White Star Dock, foot of West 10th-st.
These steamers are unsurpassed in speed and accommodation. The saloons, state-rooms, smoking and bath rooms are amidships, where the pain and motion are least felt, affording a degree of comfort hitherto unattainable at sea.
Rates—Saloon, $80, $90, and $100; return tickets on favorable terms; steerage, from the old country, $30; from New-York, $30.
The steamers carry neither cattle, sheep, nor pigs.
For inspection of plans and other information, apply at the Company's office, No. 29 Broadway, New-York, or No. 140 Walnut-st., Phila. J. V. CORBIN, Agent.

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS,
FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
NOTICE.—The steamers of this line take Mail. Mail's Lake Route in all seasons of the year.
CITY OF MONTREAL.....Thursday, Dec. 30, 3 P. M.
CITY OF BERLIN.....Saturday, Jan. 8, 8 A. M.
CITY OF BRUSSELS.....Thursday, Jan. 13, 3 P. M.
CITY OF RICHMOND.....Saturday, Jan. 22, 10 A. M.
CITY OF CHESTER.....Thursday, Jan. 27, 3 P. M.
From Pier No. 37 North River, foot of Chariton-st.
Cabin, $80, $90, and $100. Return tickets on favorable terms. STEERAGE, $30. Prepaid, $30. Drafts at lowest rates.
Saloons, state-rooms, smoking and bath rooms amidships. These steamers do not carry cattle, sheep, or pigs.
Nos. 31 and 33 Broadway, New-York.
Philadelphia office, No. 109 South 4th-st.

STATE LINE,
TO GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, DUBLIN, BELFAST, AND LONDONDERRY.
From Pier No. 45 North River, foot of Canal-st.
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.Thursday, Dec. 30, 8 P. M.
STATE OF NEBRASKA. (new).....Jan. 6, 11 A. M.
IRISH SERVICE. (For Belfast direct.)
STATE OF ALABAMA.....About Jan. 5
First Cabin, $60 to $70, according to accommodation; excursion tickets, $110 to $120; Second Cabin, $40; excursion tickets, $75. Steerage, outward, $20. These steamers carry neither cattle, sheep, or pigs.
For freight and passage apply to
AUSTIN BALDWIN & CO., General Agents,
No. 53 Broadway, New-York.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL.
NORTH GERMAN LLOYD.
STEAM-SHIP LINE BETWEEN NEW-YORK, SOUTHAMPTON, AND BREMEN.
DONAU.....Dec. 30 EIDER.....Jan. 20
HERMANN.....Sat., Jan. 1 ODER.....Sat., Jan. 15
First Cabin.....$80
Second Cabin.....60
Steerage.....30
Return tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid steerage certificates, $30. Steamers sail from pier between 2d and 3d sts., Hoboken, N. J.
OELRICHS & CO., No. 2 Bowling Green.
NOTICE.
In consequence of the holiday the steamers Donau and Rhein will leave at 12 o'clock M. instead of 3 o'clock P. M. as usual.

RED STAR LINE.
BELGIAN ROYAL AND UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.
The splendid first-class full-powered steamers
ZEELAND.....Saturday, Jan. 1, 6 A. M.
BELGENLAND.....Saturday, Jan. 8, noon
Saloons, State-rooms, Smoking and Bath-rooms amidships. Second Cabin accommodations unequaled.
State-rooms on all Main Deck.
No horses, cattle, sheep, or pigs carried.
First Cabin, $100 and $75. Second Cabin, $45.
Steerage, $26. Prepaid, $26. Excursion, $45 50.
PETER WRIGHT & SONS, General Agents,
No. 19 Broadway, N. Y.

GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY.
Between New-York and Havre.
Company's Pier, (new) No. 42 North River, foot of Morton-st.
Travelers by this line avoid both transit by English railway and the discomforts of crossing the Channel in a small boat.
FREDINAND DE LESSEPS, Tonjon Wed. Dec. 29, 8 P. M.
FRANCE, Tauzelle.....Wednesday, Jan. 5
VILLE DE MARSEILLE, Caron.....Wed., Jan. 12
Checks drawn on Credit Lyonnais, of Paris, in amounts to suit.
For freight and passage apply to
LOUIS DE BEBIAN, Agent, No. 6 Bowling Green.

CUNARD LINE.
NOTICE—"LANE ROUTE."
FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL, VIA QUEENSTOWN.
FROM PIER NO. 40 NORTH RIVER.
ROTHERIA.....Wednesday, 29th inst., 1:30 P. M.
PARTHIA.....Wednesday, 5th Jan., 6 A. M.
BOTHNIA.....Wednesday, 12th Jan., 2 P. M.
BATAVIA.....Wednesday, 19th Jan., 7 A. M.
Cabin passage, $80, $90, and $100; return tickets on favorable terms; steerage, from the old country, $20; from New-York, $30.
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PHOENICIA.....Dec. 30 SILESIA.....Jan. 13
WESTPHALIA.....Jan. 6 HOLSATIA.....Jan. 20
Rates of passage to Plymouth, London Cherbourg, Hamburg, and all points in the south of England: First Cabin, $100; Second Cabin, $60; Steerage, $30. Round trip at reduced rates. Prepaid steerage tickets from Hamburg or Havre, $26.
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ANCHOR LINE U. S. MAIL STEAMERS.
NEW-YORK AND GLASGOW.
From Pier No. 20 North River, New-York.
Italopia.....Jan. 1, 8 A. M. Circassia.....Jan. 15, 8 A. M.
Bolivia.....Jan. 8, noon Devonia.....Jan. 22, 10 A. M.
Steerage tickets from Glasgow, Londonderry, or Belfast, $30.
Cabins, $60 to $80. Excursion tickets at reduced rates.
Second Cabin, $40. Steerage, $20.
NEW-YORK TO LONDON DIRECT.
Australia.....Jan. 1, 6 A. M. Victoria.....Jan. 8, noon
Cabins, $65 and $85. Excursion tickets at reduced rates.
HENDERSON BROTHERS, Agents, 7 Bowling Green.

MONARCH LINE. NEW-YORK AND LONDON.
Splendid new, fast steamers, each 4,700 tons burden, leave docks of Clyde Favonia Ferry, Jersey City, as follows:
PERSIAN MONARCH.....Dec. 29
ASSYRIAN MONARCH.....Dec. 31
Saloon passage, with very superior accommodation, $70 to $80; excursion tickets, $140. Steerage outward, $30. Prepaid steerage tickets issued for passage from London to New-York at low rates.
For freight or passage apply to
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ROTTERDAM LINE.
Steamers leave Watson's Stores, Brooklyn.
W. A. SCHOLTEN.....WEDNESDAY, Jan. 5
SCHIEDAM.....Wednesday, Jan. 12
AMSTERDAM.....Wednesday, Jan. 26
Rates—Cabin, $60 ($70); 2d Cabin, $40 ($45); Steerage, $26. Drafts.
H. CAZAUX, General Agent, No. 27 South William-st.
FUNCK, RUTZ & CO.....H. W. MORRIS,
27 S. Wm.-st., Freight Agts. 30 B'way, Gen. Passage Agt.

NATIONAL LINE.—PIER 39 NORTH RIVER.
FOR LONDON. (Victoria Docks.)
Canada, Sat., Jan. 1, 6 A. M.
FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN:
Egypt, Sat., Jan. 1, 6 A. M. Italy, Jan. 12 M.
Cabin, $50 to $70, currency. Prepaid steerage tickets, $26, being $2 lower than most lines.
F. W. J. HURST, Manager, 69 and 73 Broadway.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.
Pier foot of Canal-st., North River.
For San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama:
STEAMER CITY OF PEKIN.....Wednesday, Dec. 29, noon
Connecting for Central and South American and Mexico.
From SAN FRANCISCO to JAPAN and CHINA:
STEAMER CITY OF PEKIN.....Wednesday, Jan. 5, P. M.
From SAN FRANCISCO to HONOLULU, NEW-ZEALAND, and AUSTRALIA:
STEAMER ALAMEDA.....Saturday, Jan. 15, 9 P. M., or on arrival of London mails at San Francisco.
Passengers forwarded to SAN FRANCISCO, SANDWICH ISLANDS, JAPAN, CHINA, NEW-ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND MEXICO.
For freight, passage, and general information apply to Company's office on the pier, foot of Canal-st., North River.
R. H. FRAZER, Agent. C. KELLEY, Superintendent.

N. Y., HAVANA, and MEXICAN MAIL S. S. LINE.
Steamers leave Weekly from Pier 9 N. R., at 3 P. M.
FOR HAVANA DIRECT.
AND FOR VERA CRUZ VIA HAVANA.
Calling at PROGRESO, CAMPECHE, and FRONTERA.
BRITISH EMPIRE (Havana only).....Thursday, Dec. 30
CITY OF MEXICO.....Thursday, Jan. 6
HABANA.....Thursday, Jan. 13
Cabin passage, $60; $80, and $100; return tickets on favorable terms; steerage, from the old country, $20; from New-York, $30.
The steamers carry neither cattle, sheep, nor pigs.
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Canada, Sat., Jan. 1, 6 A. M.
FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN:
Egypt, Sat., Jan. 1, 6 A. M. Italy, Jan. 12 M.
Cabin, $50 to $70, currency. Prepaid steerage tickets, $26, being $2 lower than most lines.
F. W. J. HURST, Manager, 69 and 73 Broadway.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.
Pier foot of Canal-st., North River.
For San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama:
STEAMER CITY OF PEKIN.....Wednesday, Dec. 29, noon
Connecting for Central and South American and Mexico.
From SAN FRANCISCO to JAPAN and CHINA:
STEAMER CITY OF PEKIN.....Wednesday, Jan. 5, P. M.
From SAN FRANCISCO to HONOLULU, NEW-ZEALAND, and AUSTRALIA:
STEAMER ALAMEDA.....Saturday, Jan. 15, 9 P. M., or on arrival of London mails at San Francisco.
Passengers forwarded to SAN FRANCISCO, SANDWICH ISLANDS, JAPAN, CHINA, NEW-ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND MEXICO.
For freight, passage, and general information apply to Company's office on the pier, foot of Canal-st., North River.
R. H. FRAZER, Agent. C. KELLEY, Superintendent.

N. Y., HAVANA, and MEXICAN MAIL S. S. LINE.
Steamers leave Weekly from Pier 9 N. R., at 3 P. M.
FOR HAVANA DIRECT.
AND FOR VERA CRUZ VIA HAVANA.
Calling at PROGRESO, CAMPECHE, and FRONTERA.
BRITISH EMPIRE (Havana only).....Thursday, Dec. 30
CITY OF MEXICO.....Thursday, Jan. 6
HABANA.....Thursday, Jan. 13
Cabin passage, $60, $80, and $100; return tickets on favorable terms; steerage, from the old country, $20; from New-York, $30.
The steamers carry neither cattle, sheep, nor pigs.
For inspection of plans and other information, apply at the Company's office, No. 4 Bowling Green, New-York, or No. 140 Walnut-st., Phila. J. V. CORBIN, Agent.

SAVANNAH AND FLORIDA.
From Pier No. 40 North River, (new No. 35,) foot of Spring-st.
at 3 P. M. Wednesday and Saturday.
CITY OF MACON, Capt. Keator, Sat., Dec. 25, at 12 M.
CITY OF COLUMBUS, Capt. Pierce, Wednesday, Dec. 29
connecting with the Central Railroad of Georgia, the Savannah, Florida and Western Railroad, and Steamer for Florida, via Inside Route, and steamer St. Johns, via Outside Line, to Jacksonville and all points on the St. Johns River.
H. YONGE, Jr., Agent, Union Office, 317 Broadway.
GEO. YONGE Agent Ocean S. S. Co., Pier 35 N. R. 315 Broadway.
C. D. OWENS, Gen'l Agt. S. F. & W. R. R.

NEW-YORK AND CUBA MAIL S. S. LINE
FOR HAVANA DIRECT.
ONLY WEEKLY LINE OF AMERICAN STEAMERS.
FROM PIER NO. 13 EAST RIVER, AT 3 P. M.
Regular Mail Steamships.
SS. NIAGARA.....Thursday, Dec. 30
SS. NEWPORT (new).....Thursday, Jan. 8
SS. SARATOGA (new).....Thursday, Jan. 15
JAMES E. WARD & CO., No. 113 Wall-st.

CHARLESTON LINE.
FROM PIER NO. 37 NORTH RIVER, at 3 P. M.
S. S. NORTH CAROLINA.....WEDNESDAY, Dec. 29
S. S. CHARLESTON.....SATURDAY, Jan. 1
FLORIDA, THE SOUTH, & SOUTH-WEST.
For freight and passage apply to
JAMES QUIRKED & SON, Agents, offices on the pier, or H. YONGE, Jr., Gen'l Agent, No. 317 Broadway.

NEW-YORK AND HAVANA DIRECT MAIL LINE.
Steamers leave Pier 13 North River, foot of Spring-st., at 3 P. M.
SATURDAY, Dec. 25, for Havana.
SATURDAY, Jan. 1, for Havana.
Through tickets to all points in the interior of Cuba.
For freight or passage apply to
E. A. ALEXANDER & SON, Gen. Pass. Agents, 52 Broadway.

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FINANCIAL.
OFFICERS OF
NAY & KING, No. 68 Broad-st.
JAMESON, SMITH & COTTING, No. 12 Wall-st.
SCOTT & LEAVITT, No. 34 Broad-st.

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE
subscriptions for a limited amount (not exceeding $2,000,000) of the capital stock of the

IRON STEAM-BOAT COMPANY,
in shares of one hundred dollars each.
This Company is building, and will have in readiness for the coming Summer season, a large fleet of Iron Steam-boats, especially adapted for the requirements of passengers; of great speed, constructed in the most substantial manner, non-combustible, and with numerous water-tight compartments, which will render them incapable of sinking. Contracted with the ordinary wooden steam-boats, they cannot fail to command, at highly remunerative rates, the patronage of the great majority of the traveling public.
The Company has entered into contracts extending over a term of years, under which it has acquired the exclusive right to convey passengers from New-York and its vicinity to the Iron Pier at Coney Island, and a similar exclusive right to convey passengers to Coney Island in connection with one of the leading railroads to that place. In view of the vast number of people who visit this famous Summer resort, it is evident that a line of steam-boats possessing these exclusive privileges, constructed in such manner as to command the highest degree of public confidence, and furnished a response to an urgent public demand, must at once prove very profitable.
The contracts already entered into will insure to the Company from the outset a business limited only by its capacity, and arrangements are in course of completion with the Erie and Pennsylvania Railroad Companies under which it will acquire, in addition, a large and profitable excursion business. The company will extend its operations as rapidly as exclusive and profitable connections can be consummated.
During the Winter months it is the intention of the Company to utilize its boats in Southern waters, so far as they can be profitably employed.
The Company is organized under the Laws of New-Jersey, and subscribers to the stock will incur no liability beyond the obligation to pay the amount of their subscriptions.
We recommend this investment as one promising large returns, and well worthy the attention and confidence of the most careful investors.
Each subscriber will receive for every $1,000 of stock allotted and paid for First Mortgage Bonds of the Company (bearing interest at 6 per cent.) to the amount of $800.
The terms of the subscription are as follows:
Ten per cent. on allotment.
Ten per cent. Feb. 2, 1881,
Ten per cent. March 2, 1881,
Ten per cent. April 2, 1881,
Ten per cent. May 2, 1881,
and the remainder in installments of not exceeding 10 per cent. on 20 days' notice previously given. Receipts will be given for each payment, and the Bonds and Certificates of stock will be issued upon the payment of the final installment.
Subscriptions will be received at the offices of either of the undersigned from Dec. 28 inst. until Jan. 13, 1881.
NAY & KING, No. 68 Broad-st.
JAMESON, SMITH & COTTING, No. 12 Wall-st.
SCOTT & LEAVITT, No. 34 Broad-st.
New-York, Dec. 22, 1880.

The undersigned, who are stockholders in and Directors of the Iron Steam-boat Company, fully concur in the above statement, and cordially recommend this stock to persons seeking a safe and profitable investment.
GEO. S. SCOTT, of Scott & Leavitt.
LEWIS MAY, of May & King.
JAMES D. SMITH, of Jameson, Smith & Cotting.
C. J. OSBORN, of C. J. Osborn & Co.
WM. J. HUTCHINSON, of Kennedy, Hutchinson & Co.
JOHN ROACH, of John Roach & Son.
C. E. QUINCEY, of Wm. Heath & Co.
W. B. CONNOR.
SAMUEL CARPENTER, of Pennsylvania Railroad Company.
RUFUS HATCH.
CERRIS MEYER.
A. S. HOUSTON, President Pacific Mail Steam-ship Company.
A. R. WHITNEY.
E. G. MILLER, Bridgeport, Conn.
EDWARD WIGHT.
CHAS. H. CRAMP, of Cramp & Sons, Philadelphia.

NOTICE.
TO HOLDERS OF ALLEGHENY FOUR PER CENT RAILROAD COMPROMISE BONDS.
OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER,
City of Allegheny, Dec. 7, 1880.
The Sinking Fund Commission of the City of Allegheny, Penn., hereby give notice that they are ready to redeem at any time after Dec. 30, 1880, the following outstanding Four Per Cent. Railroad Compromise Bonds, issued by said city under act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approved April 10, 1869, entitled an "Act relative to the Railroad Indebtedness of the City of Allegheny, viz.: Nos. 145, 146, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 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ADVICE FROM THE PULPIT

TWO APPEALS FOR THE PERSECUTED GERMAN JEWS.

MR. BEECHER SHOWS THE WORLD'S INDEBTEDNESS TO THE HEBREW RACE—ROBERT COLLYER ON JEWISH THRIFT AND MANLINESS—GERMANY UNTRUE TO HER TRADITIONS.

The driving snow-storm had no perceptible effect upon the congregation at Plymouth Church last evening, the great building being completely packed by men and women, who hung upon the words of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher on the subject of the "Persecution of the Jews in Germany." Mr. Beecher spoke for an hour, taking for his text Exodus, xxi.: 6, 33: "And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the Lord, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land, for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof. One law shall be to him that is home-born, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you." "I have been asked," said Mr. Beecher, "to join, with my congregation in a respectful remonstrance against the persecution of the Jews in Germany. When Plymouth pulpit refuses to join in any reasonable movement for the defense of the weak anywhere in this wide world, it will no longer have any excuse for its own existence. I believe that I can truthfully say that no more earnest or eager man than I myself can speak in behalf of the freedom of the Jews everywhere. America has a special reason to join in the remonstrance now being made, for we are more heavily indebted to the Jews than all the other nations of the world together. To them we owe the earliest form of the Commonwealth, established by Moses; to the doctrines of the Old Testament are due the rights established for strangers in foreign lands. To the Jews more than to any other nation of antiquity we are indebted for the establishment of the household, and for our high conceptions of womanhood. A barbaric idea of woman will ever lead to barbarism, but the noble and refined ideas inculcated by the Jews leads to civilization. Among the Jews only, perhaps, among the nations of antiquity, was woman allowed to be a lawgiver, an artist, Judge, poet, or whatever else God inspired her to be. We owe the laws and customs which protect labor and the laborer, the poor and the suffering, to the Commonwealth of the Desert. To the Jews also we owe the more ideas which underlie the Christian world. The Old Testament is ours because the Jews wrote it, lived it, preserved it, and handed it down to us. The New Testament is Jewish, and our blessed Lord was a Jew. In return for all which they have conferred upon it, the Jews have received in return from the Christian world a long continued persecution without a parallel for cruelty. The whole race of the Israelites seemed almost to have been typified in the fable of the Wandering Jew, and every man's hand seemed to be turned against them. As in the days of our Lord there were men possessed of a devil, so in later times the Churches became possessed of the devil of hatred, and from this sprang the persecution of the Jews. We had hoped that this persecution was ended, and of all nations in Europe we had believed that progressive Germany would be the last to abet such injustice. Now, when we have heard that the devil of strife which is now fermenting will be allowed to develop itself. Let the voice of America be heard, pleading for the entire liberation of all men, without distinction of race, creed, or color." Mr. Beecher read a translation of the petition circulated in Germany, and made running comments on it. The petition begins with the assertion that the spread of the Jewish element brings with it serious danger to German nationality. Everywhere the Jew, when brought into social relations with the Christian, is gaining the mastery. "I think if that were true in America," said the speaker, "my pride would never let me say it—that the native population went down before the brain of the Jew. In this country, if the Jew, with a fair field and no favor, can surpass the Christian, let him do it. Isn't the confession, coming from a people like the Germans, is humiliating." In hard labor, the petition says, the Jew takes little part. "That is to say," Mr. Beecher commented, "the Jew works with his head. He has something else besides his arms and feet. Now, the law of precedence is just that. The unenlightened brains of men have got to do the hard work in this world. Those men work at manual toil who are fitted for it. This confession of the petition presents a more dismal aspect of civilization in Germany than I myself am expected to see." Another charge made against the Jews is that they reap the fruits of Christian work, and that their wealth is rapidly increasing. "Why don't they kill them?" asked the speaker. "There is only one way to prevent a people so shrewd and so unflagging in their industries that they are getting control of the real estate and capital of the country. Kill them! Kill them! But it is only proposed to suppress them. There never was a revelation of such a charge made by a great nation. If I had not supreme confidence in the men who made this translation for me, I should believe that this petition was a travesty. If the Jews, who obey German laws, and have been better neighbors than their German compatriots, are doing better than they, it is God's message to the Germans to rouse up and do better." The first demand of the petition is that the immigration of foreign Jews be checked in Germany. "I suppose that the same policy will be pursued in America," said Mr. Beecher. "I see innumerable German names in our streets, and I hear complaints from business men that they are undersold by the Jews. I have even heard it said that the Yankees must band their own against this industrious people. If that be so, they had better seek out and marry Jewish maidens, and see if they cannot raise a cross between the Yankees and the Jews. When I see the names of our Israelitish bankers, am I to suppose because they have financial ability, and are developing it under the law, that they are putting our people into the vocative, and our remedy is to decapitate them? Can we remedy the bottom of society by pulling down the top? Is not the Jew a man? What more do you want? Oh, that some of these Germans would come over here and breathe the air of freedom for a while. If they can fill our offices better than our home-made men, we will welcome them. If there is, in any land, a stock or race which can improve our own, in God's name, bring them on here. We want them. We want to skim the dairies of the world in order that we may become cheese and butter and not skim milk. But that is not the feeling in Germany. This petition, in whatever light we view it, is pitiable. It is a disgrace to a nation that we esteem great." After referring to the injustice of debarring Jewish teachers from the public schools, and from official position, Mr. Beecher continued: "And now comes this scheme to come into The world has traveled too far for such persecution to last for any length of time, and if Germany persists in rifling herself on any such question she will be settled again in a very few years. If I were a Jew I would not care to send across the water tonight; it is to refer to its own principles, and to appeal to Germany not to return to the civilization of the Middle Ages. We hold that every man must obey the laws, and seek the welfare of any nation in which he sojourns, and that subject to this condition, he has a right to make his home, and follow his calling wherever he pleases. I am a citizen, not alone of America, but of the world. I belong to the human race. That is the simple creed which gives me morally a right to go to any nation on earth, and stand before the law, must stand on the same level. That is the corner-stone of the true Commonwealth, and no nation can pursue any other course without bringing down on itself the hatred and the criticism of every civilized country. We expect better things of Germany than we do of smaller and weaker nations, and no nation can commit with impunity the crime which will be charged to the Germans if they continue to persecute the Jews." Mr. Beecher suggested that a respectful remonstrance to Bismarck be drawn up and signed by members of the church and society, and concluded: "I would say to every man in Germany stand for the liberty of the Jews as you would your own countrymen or Him in whom you hope, and from whom you expect salvation."

The blinding storm which swept down the broad opening of Park-avenue last night in gusts that well nigh lifted the tolling pedestrian off his feet, and laid the snow in solid drifts across his path, did not prevent the topic which the Rev. Robert Collyer had selected for his Sunday evening discourse from attracting a full house. Men in dark shaggy overcoats dropped in, white-robed as a surface after walking a square or two, until nearly every pew was filled. But there were few ladies in the audience. It was a few minutes past 8 o'clock when Mr. Collyer stepped forward to the desk and announced his text from the Epistle of Paul, the Ancient to the Romans: "What advantage hath the Jew?" His theme, like Mr. Beecher's, was the recent anti-Jewish crusade in Germany and its anomalous relation to the large and liberal spirit of German literature and philosophy. He contended, he said, that the greatest memories of his life that he had been in Germany, the homestead of modern freedom of thought. Circumstances had combined to place the English, the Americans, and the Germans in the front rank of the progress of this century, and when he went about to trace the spirit of manly independence which distinguished these nations to its source, his mind reverted to a people whose history was fraught with manliness—a people who did not ask for counsels of policy when the cause of justice was placed in the balance. Even the Latin historians had not disdained to speak of the customs of the Germans, of their sturdy manhood, and of some of their peculiar traditions. If a man struck a woman, she was entitled to a divorce in answer to the blow, and to half the property besides, which he used to think would be a great temptation to some women in modern times. It was told also how German wives and mothers went with their husbands and sons to the battle-field to nurse and strengthen. Such was the story of the forefathers of our Saxon stock, and he did not wonder that twice, when he had the opportunity, he turned to Germany, and that even Italy, with her splendid associations, had counted him across the Mediterranean, for the men of Northern Germany was the German he loved best of all. Here was the German manhood in its purity; education was presented to, and religious liberty was first studied and developed. The speaker spoke of the freedom expressed by the great Frederic when he was taken what policy he proposed to pursue in the matter of religious toleration, and he replied: "Every one may attend to his own soul as he pleases." It was a noble story that Germany had to tell to any one who would take the trouble to listen to it. It had been his luck, the speaker said, to live a great deal among Germans in this country, and he could not help saying that to absorb them into our civilization was like absorbing good brown bread and oatmeal, which make strong, bold blood in our hearts. He spoke next of the German homelife, of its unpretentious sincerity and affection, its simplicity, and the fourth and last of the artistic spirit—of its simple embellishments, which were not tacked and pinned on, like furbelows, but grew out of life like blossoms from the vitality of the plant. He alluded to the manner in which a great and exalted nation had been evolved from a hundred petty kingdoms, each ruled by its petty kingles who must live off its people, and have his petty little court, for which he taxed his people to their last shilling, and sold them, too, to the highest bidder when soldiers were wanted to carry on wars, and sometimes did not get as much a price for a good strong man as he might have got for a good fat ox. He had made this short study of the German, he continued, in order that it might not be said that he was prejudiced in the remarks he was about to make. But if such reports as every current could be trusted the great, brave old heart was not beating in tune to its traditions, and the old German institute that made cowardice a crime had been forgotten, for a moment. There had grown up in Germany a party which was like our Know-nothing Party; only the German Know-nothing was more ruthless than ours, and had marked for proscription a race which had borne its ills and persecutions and wrongs for centuries with an unspeakable fortitude and patience that had won for it the admiration of all manly souls. Yet here were these senders of petitions to the German Parliament who proposed to expel this suffering people from competition, and were whining to be protected against Jewish industry and thrift. How different it was in the United States, where it was said to the Jews: "Come in as many as you like, and if you get the better of our artisans or our tradesmen, very well, you are welcome to the advantage." One never heard of Jews taking part in riots, and disorders, and communes. He had known of their giving money in Western towns to build churches—churches, mind, not synagogues; but he had never known of any of our people subscribing for the erection of a synagogue. Did any one ever meet a Jew tramp, or a Jew beggar? He was sometimes half tempted to wish that everybody would turn Jew, when he was walking along the streets, and the familiar petition saluted his ear. The speaker spoke of the commendable and honest home-life of the Hebrew race, and contrasted it with that of many other peoples. The Germans, he urged, had more reason to respect their Jewish neighbors than the Americans had; for while he respected the Jews' virtues, men, and only the hard and practical aspect of the race was seen, in Germany generations of wealth had given them culture and art and letters. Take from German literature what writers of Hebrew extraction had contributed, and literature would part with many of the most brilliant pages in every department. So, again, in England the Jews were welcomed and lived in their own way—owning every kind of property, churches among the rest, which they managed to rent on favorable terms, and get their rent besides. England had taken kindly to the race, and she who lay in her coffin—George Eliot—had made it the subject of one of her noblest studies, "Daniel Deronda." So, too, in his later days Dickens became convinced of the injustice of Fagin, and redeemed himself in later and tenderer portraitures of Jewish life. Such was the attitude of England and America, but the whole-souled German had at this late day fallen into a panic, and was clamoring for proscription. She who could not afford to sell the magnificent pages of history she had written during this century, had forgotten that the Jews made good soldiers in the struggle with France—forgotten that the question was one of principle, not of policy—forgotten that the Jews were always on the side of order—and proposed to proscribe the race because they thrift, and made money, and maintained its poor, and was getting on in the world. Granted that Jews were given to trade; for ages they had to trade to keep themselves from starvation. But the time would come when they would excel other walks, and when opportunity would bring forth culture, and the nobler embellishments of life. In conclusion, Mr. Collyer appealed to the Germans not to forfeit their traditional manliness by sanctioning this proscription or giving it a legal existence in the policy of the nineteenth century.

MR. BEECHER ON PROGRESS.

THE WORLD STEADILY ADVANCING—HOW MAN WOULD HAVE MADE IT.

Henry Ward Beecher had a house crammed full of listeners yesterday when he began his morning sermon in Plymouth Church. After saying that he would be "at home from 11 to 6 o'clock on New-Year's Day," he took for his text Luke, ii: 14: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men." Mr. Beecher elaborated at great length the fact that it did not please the Divine Architect to create this world as we would have done it. Had the contrary been the case, the world would have come into existence with a perfect knowledge from the very beginning. We would have had a perfect understanding of the complex human body, as well as some definite information about emotions, sentiments, reason, and the human soul. We would have arranged that men should not only have the sensations of justice, purity, and goodness, but should know just what was pure and good. The world was evidently not made after our pattern. Why the divine method was not our method he did not know, and he considered it of no importance to know. He only desired to know what method God employed in the creation of the world. A great many persons feared that the advent of science would bring doubts. Undoubtedly it would bring some doubts, but it would also displace a great many more doubts.

Mr. Beecher held that the world was steadily advancing, and that religion was spreading both outwardly and inwardly. The world was making great gains, he thought, in the matter of good-will to men, not only, but more than in past ages. The knowledge of mental philosophy was becoming more and more diffused, and that subject would very soon be among the definite and well-understood sciences. Great, destroying famines were growing fewer and fewer in number and frequency. There was a time when protection, which shut nations up, made famines possible. Nations were ready to fight each other, but not to give each other bread. A day of free trade had changed all that. Under the old system of protection Europe might have been breadless and America could not have helped her. Ireland would recently have starved to death had it not been for American potatoes. But the old spirit of protection—of warring against, rather than aiding, other nations—had passed away, and famines could not last much longer. Then, too, great plagues—yellow fever, cholera, and similar scourges—were growing fewer and fewer. The world was advancing. Wash the globe and put good clothes and food around and into its belly, and disease and pestilence would disappear. God never meant that the supply of fresh air should give out. That idea exists only in the minds of men who build houses, said Mr. Beecher, said Mr. Beecher, with emphasis, was the stinkpool of creation. Not even in China were there such stinkpools as in that regal old city we all venerate. Yet, even London was beginning to cleanse some of its thoroughfares, and put them into a better condition. All these facts were for the benefit of the poorer classes even more than for others. Then there was the steady introduction of machinery. When a machine was put to work it displaced some labor, but in the end it was vastly better that the iron slave rather than human slave should do the work. If the machine took away some labor, it put clothes on the poor man's back. But it took away labor only temporarily, for every machine in the end opened up new opportunities for labor.

Mr. Beecher then spoke of the steady gain made by the poorer classes. He rejoiced at every organization of every kind that brought the common people together and taught them to reason and think and act together. It was one thing not to believe in the philosophy of Socialists and similar organizations, and it was another thing to be glad that they were trying to have a philosophy. The preacher discerned a great and growing tendency in the world to admit the common people to participation in government, and, in spite of occasional irruptions of the lower classes, it was having a good effect on Governments and on the people. By reason of the rapid transit of commerce and the more rapid transit of ideas, China to-day was nearer New-York than Boston was when independence was declared. We have given nerves to the world, said the speaker, and if there is a fire in San Francisco we know it before the flames are put out. If a gun is fired in Austria we know of it before the battle is over. The result is, the civilized world is now only one great neighborhood. Europe, Mr. Beecher added, was in a most extraordinary condition, in which all that labor, industry, and machinery did was taxed to the very utmost to maintain standing armies. The only plea of the nations was that they could not disarm and leave powerful neighbors armed. All Europe was a camp, and the European law was the law of violence. By her example America was doing more for humanity and more for religion than all the armies of the world. Every time a man mobbed a Chinaman in this country he took out a stone from the foundation of American policy. Every time a man struck a Jew he struck against the great central idea of American liberty. All our laws, institutions, and our polity were for the benefit of mankind. Mr. Beecher closed with a glowing reference to the work of the English language in spreading the Gospel and in adding humanity, and with a benediction that the time would come when all the kingdoms of this world would become the kingdoms of our Lord.

DR. TALMAGE'S FAITH IN HEAVEN.

A tall cross of snow-white calla lilies and carnations, edged with fern, stood upon Mr. Talmage's reading-desk yesterday morning, and at both ends of the platform were large baskets of bright-hued exotics, grasses, and smilax. The front of the organ bore the legend "Thou shalt call His name Jesus" in blue and silver letters on a frosted ground, the whole being bordered with American holly. An edging of the same plant adorned the platforms, and sprays and wreaths of evergreens were hung upon the walls in all directions. There was an immense number of people present. Mrs. Florence Rice-Knox, to whom Mr. Talmage referred in his sermon as "a queenly soloist," supplemented the organ's tones, and the boy choir with two solos—"O, shepherd watching" and "Hail Christmas morn." Mr. Talmage, in his discourse, spoke of the happy time to come when "the lion is to eat straw like the elephant." He said that the people would then all take their children's side in their quarrels, and that "Holiness shall be on the bells of the horses." He remarked that the wise men of the East were astronomers who were always examining the heavens, and that it was in this way that they happened to see the star first. At another point he exclaimed, "I'm going into heaven. I'm going to take in all my family. I'm going to take in all my church. I have so much faith that I feel sure of it. I'm going to push you in. I'm going to surprise you in. You're going to respond you to go in. I like your company so well, [with a smirk,] that I want to spend eternity with you." At the conclusion, he called the Rev. Dr. Spear, his counsel in the trial before the Presbytery, to come out from among the congregation and pronounce the benediction. Dr. Spear took advantage of the opportunity to say, "Will was said: my friends, of one of the greatest and best of beings—the purest that ever honored this world—on one memorable occasion, and he answered them not a word, setting an example that it may often be our highest dignity and greatest glory to imitate." This was the only allusion to the latest phase of the Talmage case.

A SERMON ON HOSPITAL SUNDAY.

DR. ARMITAGE ON THE NATURE OF THE COLLECTIONS—RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE.

The Fifth-Avenue Baptist Church, in Forty-sixth-street, near Fifth-avenue, was crowded yesterday morning by an attentive audience, who came to listen to the Rev. Dr. Armitage's sermon on Hospital Sunday. The interior was appropriately decked for Christmas, the large carved oak choir above the pulpit being hung round with wreaths of fir and festoons of running vine. Dr. Armitage prefaced his sermon by a few brief remarks as to the nature and institution of the annual collections for hospitals on the last Sunday of the year, which is copied from a similar custom that has been current in London for many years. The collections were taken up on the last Saturday and Sunday of the year in churches of all denominations, and the proceeds were scrupulously divided among the hospital institutions of this kind in the Metropolis. Last year the total contributions from all sources aggregated the large sum of $26,495, of which no less than $16,145 had been collected in the churches, the remainder being raised by the Stock, Produce, and Maritime Exchanges, the Chamber of Commerce, and the owners of hotels and restaurants. Churches of all denominations, Catholics, Protestants and professors of every creed contributed to the Hospital Sunday collections, and all these institutions, as well as those which were non-sectarian, shared in the proceeds.

After giving out the hymn "Blest is the man whose softening heart feels all another's pain," Dr. Armitage took for his text Psalm xli: 1: "Blessed is he that considereth the poor." His text was Romans, xv.: 30: "I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me." The preacher described the condition of the Church in Jerusalem which called forth the apostle's remark. They were on the brink of starvation, and the heart of the apostle was touched with pity for them. Through his efforts the churches in various provinces raised money for the relief of the Jerusalem Christians; but so great was the pride of the latter, and their contempt for the newly-converted Gentiles, that it is a question whether they could be induced to take it. So stern and unyielding was the prejudice of these saints that they were actually in the position of having to have their mouths forced open that the bread sent them by the Gentile Christians might be put in. In this emergency, Paul had recourse to the only possible means that could soften them; he prayed to God that his service to the saints at Jerusalem might prove acceptable to them. This demon of prejudice against the Gentiles could not be cast out by ordinary means. The result of his supplication was of the utmost importance; if the saints of Jerusalem refused the gift it would show that Christianity had not broken down the middle wall of partition between the Gentiles and Jews. It was for this reason that he asked the Romans to help him to strive together with him in their prayers that the starving saints at Jerusalem might be influenced to accept the aid of their Gentile brethren in Christ. The striving that the apostle asked of them was no ordinary striving; it implied mental struggling and wrestling like that of Jacob with the angel. Though Peter lived with Simon, the tanner, he would not associate with him, because the trade of handling skins was unclean. When he at length ventured to baptize the Centurion Cornelius and his family, the saints in Jerusalem criticised his as doing as something almost illegal. Naturally, there was a coldness between Paul and the Jewish Christians. From the first they held aloof from him, and for three years after his conversion he did not venture to come to Jerusalem. When at length he did, only Cephas met Peter and James came to see him. They shunned him because they were jealous of him, partly on account of his former rôle as a persecutor, but principally because he was the Apostle to the Gentiles. Peter's confession to Simon he says was beautifully that "Barnabas treated him with great gentleness." They had actually made his stay among them so unhappy that when he took the collection raised by the Romans to them, he prayed that they might be induced to accept it. He had a right to expect gratitude and charity from them, but he did not get it; their evil prejudice was too powerful.

Prejudice of this kind was based on neither knowledge, examination, nor facts, and injured the man who possessed it by more than any one else. "Love a man who is prejudiced against you," said the speaker, "and he will despise you; serve him, and he'll revile you for it; save his life, and when you have saved it, look out sharp that he does not consider it of no importance. You can do can soften him any more than a drop of fresh water falling into the brine of the ocean can make it sweet. You could not turn a lion into a tiger by stroking his hide. This prejudice against particular persons was the result of defamation, slander, class legislation, and finally culminated in open persecution. While I voted for the Republican candidate for Mayor at the late election," said Dr. Armitage, "I could not but blush when I was made the recipient of circulars asking me to give them my vote because my opponent was a Roman Catholic. I blushed to think that anybody could believe me to be capable of such meanness." The speaker cited the cases of the Irish Roman Catholic Mr. Farrell, who left $5,000 in his will to establish a colored orphan asylum, and of the Jewish Mr. Seligman, whose noble bequest of $50,000 to 58 charities of different races and creeds had called forth such favorable commendation, and of that on last Hospital Sunday seven Hebrew synagogues which helped to support all their own sick and many others besides in Mount Sinai Hospital at a cost of $50,000 a year, had given several thousands additional to this hospital fund, and that without any reservation in favor of their own institutions, but for division among those of all denominations and classes. The preacher concluded by commending their example to all the contributors to the fund. The collection which was afterward taken up was a liberal one.

EVIL EFFECTS OF SNOW-BALLING.

A number of young rowdies amused themselves last evening opposite No. 82 Greenwich-street by snow-balling the passers-by. For a time they were successful in eluding indignant pedestrians by hiding behind the trucks which lined the street. About 10 o'clock John Hanson and Charles Ahoe, who had been employed during the day in unloading a ballast-scow at the foot of One Hundred and Sixty-fifth-street, North River, passed through Greenwich-street on their way to their homes in Brooklyn. The two laborers were selected as appropriate targets by the boys, and they were hit by several volleys of hard snow-balls. Becoming annoyed at the two men finally retaliated, and chased the rowdies, giving them occasional cuffs as they came within reach. Suddenly a pistol-shot was fired, and John Brennan, of No. 100 West-street, fell to the ground, exclaiming that he was shot. Officer Michael McDermott, of the Twenty-seventh Precinct, heard the discharge of the pistol, and as he reached the spot the rowdies charged Hanson with having shot Brennan. The latter was arrested and locked up in the Church-street station-house. He protested that he had not shot Brennan, and declared that he never in his life had a pistol. A boy who subsequently passed the scene of the affray found the pistol, and delivered it to Sergt. Slater. The latter expressed the opinion that the laborers had fired the first at the boys, and that one of the guns had fired at his assailants, but, being a bad marksman, had wounded one of his companions. The pistol is a cheap affair, such as many boys are fond of carrying, and is not such a weapon as a man would be likely to use. Brennan was removed to the Hudson-street Hospital, where it was found that he was shot in the thigh. His wound is not dangerous.

Ah Chung and three of his Oriental employes were ironing linen in the laundry, No. 86 Bowery-street, at 11 o'clock last night, when a number of snow-balls rattled on the window. Ah Chung pulled aside the scarlet curtain of the window, and saw four young rowdies running away from the place. He resumed his ironing, and when, a few minutes later, a second volley of snow-balls struck the window, he seized a convenient stick and ran into the street, accompanied by his Mongolian assistants. The rowdies had anticipated resistance, and proved to be more than a match for the poor Chinamen. Ah Chung's left eye was injured, and his right arm was injured. Wah Sing received several blows in the chest which injured him internally. The arrival of policemen put the ruffians to flight, and an ambulance was summoned from the Chambers-street Hospital. When it arrived neither of the injured men would accept the services of Dr. Murray, the attendant surgeon. They had plastered their wounds with a brown Oriental ointment and told the doctor that they would come as to doctor's house in ashes-wagon to-morrow."

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To the Editor of the New-York Times:

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New-York, Monday, Dec. 20, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS CITY NEWS

SLADE HEARD AT LAST.

SOME OF THE THINGS HE SAID TO THE BELIEVING AND THE UNBELIEVING.

Henry Slade, who claims to be the champion Spiritualistic medium of the world, delivered his first lecture in this City since his return from Europe, last evening, in the hall at Thirty-third-street and Broadway. Mr. Slade, or "Dr." Slade, as he is sometimes called, has been announced to appear in public on several occasions within the past few weeks, and disappointed by his absence audiences that were eager to see and hear him. Notwithstanding the fact that his attendance was a doubtful question, and also the driving snow-storm last evening, there was a large attendance. The short-haired women and long-haired men were fairly represented, but there was a preponderance of persons addicted to the most modern fashions. Seal-skin sacks, silks, and diamonds formed part of the apparel seen in the audience. A handsome bouquet rested on the speaker's stand. Mr. Slade, a few minutes before 8, made his appearance. Those who imagined they would behold a gentleman of the patriarchal stamp were disappointed when they gazed upon a figure such as is often seen after dinner on a fine afternoon in front of the Fifth-Avenue Hotel. Sporting men would recognize in him a striking resemblance to one of the proprietors of a garden in Sixth-avenue. Mr. Slade parts his dark glossy hair in the middle, and wears a heavy black mustache. His clothes are of the latest cut; he has a Piccadilly collar, a heavy gold watch-chain with a massive charm, and a red and blue silk handkerchief peeps from a breast pocket. He has a winning smile, and might be called handsome.

The services were begun by an organist and a pale yet rather pretty young woman singer. The organ music and the singing were wild and weird, but the audience applauded at the finish. Then a long-haired, long-whiskered man read several advertisements for mediums, and after more wild and weird singing Mr. Slade arose. He was introduced as the "world-renowned medium." He began by saying that two weeks ago an influence came upon him, and so controlled him that he was forced to take Mrs. Nellie Brigham's place last evening, so that she might spend Christmas with her family. "She needed a rest," said Mr. Slade, with much earnestness, "and I have taken her place." He continued that it was one thing for a person to say that he was investigating Spiritualism, and another for him to follow its teachings. He thought a strong effort should be made to reach the lower classes, and generously said: "I am not selfish enough to hold all the truths and goodness of Spiritualism in my heart." He feared that Spiritualists were too apt to be afraid of acknowledging their religion to all men, and when he heard a man say, "I have been investigating Spiritualism for 15 years, but don't call myself a Spiritualist," he was satisfied that he was afraid of being wrong with that man's head.

He was made heart-sick when he heard of propositions being made for "homes for broken-down mediums." There should be no broken-down mediums, he said. Everybody should assist them substantially and otherwise. This was considered by a few unbelievers as advertisement No. 1 for himself. He was pained when he heard that sometimes mediums were ashamed to acknowledge their calling. As for himself he stopped his mouth for no man. He had a right to his religion. He believed in Spiritualism, and would stand at the helm of the ship and die like a hero instead of a coward. Then, in a sad tone that had a visible effect upon a few young women in the front row, he said, "Life is short, and I may be called away very soon."

Mr. Slade was also grieved at the fact that the Spiritualists of New-York City have no church or place of worship here that they can call their own. They were forced to hire halls, and this was a disgrace to the society. He felt that thousands were waiting to be invited into the fold. "We are all God's children," he said; "we are all created from one Father, and we should help each other in our ordinary means." The support of this hall rests with a few, but they (and he looked at the long-haired man who introduced him,) shall get their reward in the spirit land. [Applause.] I am working for that home, and I shall labor until my last breath in defense of our cause. When I was a boy a minister took my mother aside and said to her that I was controlled by a devil, because I began to investigate Spiritualism. My mother dropped on her knees at my bedside, and prayed that I should be rescued from that devil. But the devil got hold of me one Sunday, and I wrestled with him. I choked him. [Faint laughter from some frivolous youths.] Yes, I choked him, and I conquered him. [Applause from the faithful.] The world cannot affect me now. There is too great a power behind me to let me sink now. Look at John C. Gough, meaning John B. Gough,] the great temperance lecturer. He was saved by one man. A man who had been his companion in dissipation met him sitting in front of a liquor store. John C. Gough saloon. When he asked what he did, only Cephas met Peter and James came to see him. They shunned him because they were jealous of him, partly on account of his former rôle as a persecutor, but principally because he was the Apostle to the Gentiles. Peter's confession to Simon he says was beautifully that "Barnabas treated him with great gentleness." They had actually made his stay among them so unhappy that when he took the collection raised by the Romans to them, he prayed that they might be induced to accept it. He had a right to expect gratitude and charity from them, but he did not get it; their evil prejudice was too powerful.

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Court, yesterday. Jones admitted that he struck Chalmers, but complained that he had systematically persecuted him. Jones was committed in default of $200 bail.

In a quarrel on Christmas night at No. 119 Baxter-street, James Acheson received a serious wound across the upper lip at the hands of his daughter, Marie, who used a table knife. A police surgeon dressed Acheson's wound at the Fourteenth Precinct Station-house. Marie escaped.

Dennis Mahoney, a lodger at the Fourteenth Precinct Station-house, was unable to walk yesterday morning. He complained that on Christmas night he was pushed into a cellar by a stranger at Canal and Elizabeth streets. He was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

OVERBURDENED WITH MAIL.

AN ENORMOUS QUANTITY IN THE POST OFFICE—DISTRIBUTING IT.

The mail at the Post Office yesterday was enormous. Not only was there all the extra holiday mail from the North and West to deal with, but there were in addition large quantities of belated matter from the South and South-west, together with a vast accumulation of well-filled bags from the delayed steam-ships Rhein, City of Montreal, and Britannic. Altogether between 600,000 and 700,000 letters, newspapers, and packages were stored in the Post Office Building last night for distribution below Canal-street. The eight long desks in the carriers' delivery, each 80 feet in length, were solidly packed with well stocked and carefully sorted piles of letters and papers ready for delivery. For one district alone, embracing portions of Exchange-place, Water and Front streets, and served by only two men, there were several thousand pieces awaiting delivery. The three overdue steamers had receipts in 50,000 letters, and these went to swell the piles on the carriers' desks and in the lock-boxes. In walking around the corridors of the southern end of the Post Office for 175 feet, in and out, following the angles of the inner partition, one saw over upon ther of boxes rising above the height of one's head, and all crammed with letters. In every recess was a table loaded down with extra mail matter—not flung loosely together, but carefully packed and pressed into the smallest possible space—and yet the matter overflowed tables, desks, and boxes. Besides these thick masses, there were scores upon scores of private mail-bags and boxes belonging to large business houses and firms scattered along the floor. Some of these, like those of the American Exchange Bank, the Fourth National Bank, H. K. & F. B. Thurber, and Harper & Brothers, held from 1,000 to 3,000 letters each. In the 4,000 lock-boxes, and on the tables and counters, and in the bags upon the floor it was estimated that there were not fewer than 40,000 pieces of mail matter. To sort this enormous mass it was necessary for an extra force to work all through Christmas night from 7 o'clock in the evening, and all day yesterday up to 5 o'clock. Many thousands of Christmas cards, American and foreign, are in the mails this season—indeed, the carriers say they are more plentiful than valentines in February. The carriers go out to distribute this immense quantity of letters and papers at 8 o'clock, and are expected to be back and ready to start with a fresh supply by 10 o'clock, but it is not thought likely that they will be ready then. Besides the mass of mail matter in the office yesterday evening, there had been sent up town to the stations for distribution 68 large sacks containing papers, with other matter, amounting to about four wagon-loads altogether. As may readily be imagined, the task of handling and distributing these enormous masses of mail matter has been no easy one, and Postmaster James, Superintendent of Post Office Delivery Richards, and Superintendent of Mail Carriers Bound, and their assistants, have had their hands more than full in doing it.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

MEETING OF PRESBYTERIANS—WHERE HELP AND NEW BUILDINGS ARE NEEDED.

A meeting was held last evening in the Brick Presbyterian Church, at Fifth-avenue and Thirty-seventh-street, "in the interest of Presbyterian church extension and sustentation in this City." The congregation was small, owing to the stormy weather, and at the close of the meeting Mr. William E. Dodge moved that another and similar meeting be held for the same purpose. The motion was carried, and it was decided to hold the meeting next month. The Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby presided, and introduced the Rev. Dr. Marvin R. Vincent as the first speaker. Dr. Vincent, who is Chairman of the Church Extension Committee of the Presbytery of this City, read a paper containing facts and statistics in relation to the Church. The committee was formed in 1867, its objects being "to assist new or feeble churches to become self-sustaining;" to aid in supporting efficient missionaries, and to establish new churches. The attention of the committee was called, in 1